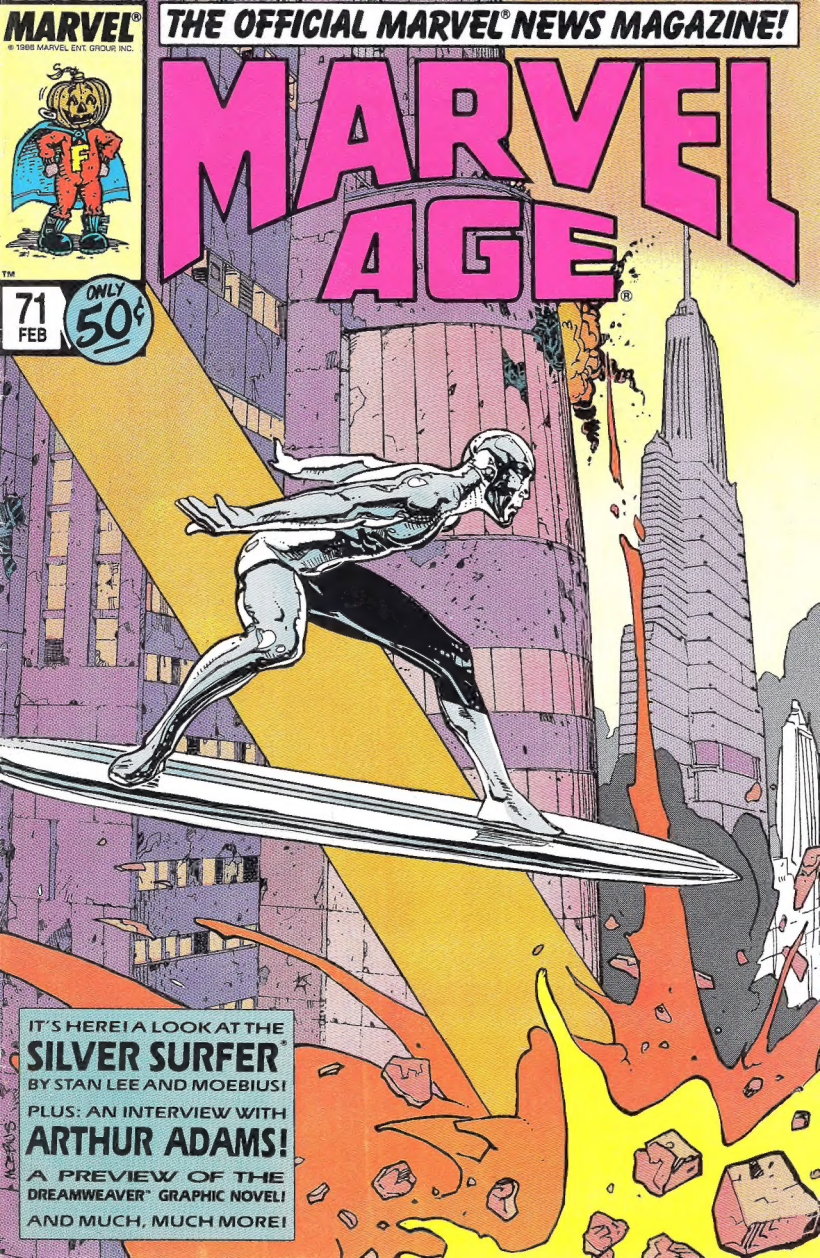
MARVEL®
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THE OFFICIAL MARVEL® NEWS MAGAZINE!
MARVEL AGE®
71
FEB
ONLY 50¢
IT'S HERE! A LOOK AT THE
SILVER SURFER®
BY STAN LEE AND MOEBIUS!
PLUS: AN INTERVIEW WITH
ARTHUR ADAMS!
A PREVIEW OF THE
DREAMWEAVER™ GRAPHIC NOVEL!
AND MUCH, MUCH MORE!
MOEBIUS

STAN LEE PRESENTS MARVEL AGE®

SALICRUP'S SECTION

He was voted America's favorite comic book editor by the COMICS BUYER'S GUIDE poll, he's the writer of both D.P.7 and CAPTAIN AMERICA, he's Marvel's Executive Editor, and now he's MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE's newest columnist! Yep, we're talking about Mister Marvel Universe, **Mark Gruenwald**. Since assuming the responsibilities of becoming editor in chief **Tom DeFalco's** right hand man, Mark has had to reluctantly give up editing his regular titles. Fear not, they're all in good hands, but the popular Mark's Remarks column was left homeless. That is until Tom ("Don't call me Chief") DeFalco suggested that Mark's Remarks could join **Stan's** Soapbox, **Fred Hembeck's** Page, and **Salicrup's** Section right here in MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE.

So it is with great pride that we welcome Mr. G's musings to our humble little mag. We're sure it'll continue to be as controversial and thought-provoking as ever, as Mark continues to enlighten and entertain us in his own ernestly entertaining way.

Now to segue from the Grue to the gruesome, it's time to talk Marvel Zombies, the topic that has helped yours truly become America's seventh favorite comic book editor. For those of you who can't come up with anything to wear this Halloween, consider becoming a Marvel Zombie. Can you think of a more inexpensive costume? Well, it's a thought...

Until next time, remember that only MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE offers you the wit and wisdom of **Willie Lumpkin**, month after month, whether you or Stan want it or not!

--Jim Salicrup

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MARVEL® COMING ATTRACTIONS

Here's a complete checklist of what's happening in all the Marvel titles with a March cover date, the Epic Comics with a January cover date, and the Marvel magazines with a February cover date.

It's Inferno Month! In THE SAGA OF THE SUB-MARINER, **Subby**, **Captain America**, and the original **Human Torch** team up for the first time! **Bullwinkle** turns into a super hero! The **Danger Mouse** series debuts in COUNT DUCKULA! And that's just a hint of the excitement in store next month! Don't take a chance on missing out on the fun—tell your comics shop owner to reserve the titles you want, today!

Titles Shipping November 1
On Sale November 22

☐ **WOLFPACK** Limited Series #8 — There are revelations galore in store for **Rafael** when he comes face to face with his long-lost father! And the repercussions will affect all of **Wolfpack** as well! "Power, Corruption, and Lies" is written by **John Figueroa**, penciled by **Ron Wilson**, and inked by **Chris Ivy**, 75¢.

☐ **DAREDEVIL** #264 — An Inferno tie-in! **Daredevil** may be more than an ordinary man, but he's still only human. Can he survive an encounter with a demon who's staked out Manhattan as his own personal Kingdom? If he can't the city will fall prey that much faster to. . .Inferno! Written by **Ann Nocenti**, penciled by **John Romita Jr.**, and inked by **Al Williamson**. 75¢.

☐ **SEMPER FI** #4 — Two two-fisted tales of the United States Marine Corps for the price of one!

First, in turn of the century China, a contingent of Marines finds itself savaged by the xenophobic fury of the Boxer Rebellion! "Fists of Fury" is written by **Michael P. Palladino** and illustrated by **John Severin.**

Then there's a drastic change of scenery with New York City the setting for a different—but no less deadly—kind of battle. Find out how Marines on leave handle a "Stickup." Written by **Michael Palladino** and drawn by **Sam Glanzman.** 75¢.

MARVEL MASTERWORKS™

Vol.1 : SPIDER-MAN —

Re-presenting the classic AMAZING FANTASY #15 and THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #s 1 thru 10 in a high-quality hardcover edition! Thrill again to the wall-crawler's awesome origin and his first encounters with the **Vulture**, the **Lizard**, and **Doctor Octopus**! Written by **Stan Lee** and illustrated by **Steve Ditko**. 256 pages. Second edition. $29.95.

☐ **MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS** #14 — Four tales of adventure, and wait'll you see what they are!

COLOSSUS Part V: What does the CIA want with an apparently ordinary family? **Colossus** may not know the whole story, but if he can't keep the family out of the CIA's clutches, it could cost the armored mutant his life! Written by **Ann Nocenti**, penciled by **Rick Leonardi**, and inked by **Bob Wiacek**.

BLACK PANTHER Part II: The **Black Panther's** quest to discover why shame and secrecy surround his mother's past turns up even more questions. The most ominous being: Why does the trail lead to the upper levels of power in South Africa? Written by **Don McGregor**, penciled by **Gene Colan**, and inked by **Tom Palmer.**

Plus complete in this issue:

The stakes are high when the hard-hitting **Nomad** attacks a powerful cocaine dealer! Who'll win? You might be surprised! Written by **Fabian Nicieza**, penciled by **Larry Alexander**, and inked by **Carl Potts**.

His hometown is helpless in the grip of the fiendish **Feathered Felon**! Can **Speedball** bounce back to save the day? Plotted and penciled by **Steve Ditko** and scripted by **Jo Duffy**. 32 pages. $1.25.

☐ **CONAN THE KING** #51 — **Baron Aemilius** sits in **King Conan's** dungeon, accused of killing **Prince Conn**. Will **Conan** convict or release him? If he makes the wrong choice, the result could be a full-fledged civil war! "Night Justice" is scripted by **James C. Owsley** and drawn by **Geof Isherwood.** 48 pages. $1.50.

☐ **EXCALIBUR** #6 — At last, the Britain-based mutant team pays a visit to New York! And they land in the ultimate tourist trap courtesy of the transformed Big Apple—Inferno! Written by **Chris Claremont** and drawn by **Alan Davis**. 32 pages. Mando paper. $1.50.

☐ **WEST COAST AVENGERS** #42 — **John Byrne** debuts as the writer and penciler! The **Vision** is missing! And the sorcerous **Scarlet Witch** will stop at nothing to get him back! Inked by **Mike Machlan**. 75¢.

☐ **G.I. JOE SPECIAL MISSIONS** #19 — You already know how the **Joes** fought their way through Tibet to reach their rescue chopper in G.I. JOE SPECIAL MISSIONS #s 14 and 15. But what you don't know is what the helicopter's crew had to go through to meet them—especially since the **Oktober Guard** was under orders to stop the helicopter at all costs! "Getting There" is written by **Larry Hama**, penciled by **Herb Trimpe**, and inked by **Andy Mushynsky**. $1.00.

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☐ **PSI-FORCE** #29 — **Psi-Force** is trapped in Siberia! Their only hope of rescue is the malevolent **Medusa Web** and their new ally—**Justice**! Written by **Fabian Nicieza**, penciled by **Rodney Ramos**, and inked by **Chris Ivy**. 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. Direct sales only. $1.50.

☐ **WEB OF SPIDER-MAN** #48 — It's an Inferno tie-in and it's producing **Spidey's** greatest nightmare yet! In a New York City gone mad, where--*how*--can **Spidey** find his wife? His desperate search plunges him into the horror-filled city sewers--and on a collision course with the demonically transformed **Hobgoblin**! "Eyes of the Demon" is written by **Gerry Conway**, penciled by **Alex Saviuk**, and inked by **Keith Williams**. $1.00.

☐ **STRIKEFORCE: MORITURI** #27 — There are some surprises in store as **Doctor Tuolema** reviews the entire history of the Moriturí Process from its original discovery up to the present. But he'd better finish quickly--the most recent recipients of the Moriturí powers are on their way to kill him! "Tuolema's Story" is written by **James D. Hudnall**, penciled by **Mark Bagley**, and inked by **Val Mayerik**. 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. Direct sales only. $1.50.

☐ **TALES OF G.I. JOE** #15 — Re-presenting from G.I. JOE #15: **Snake Eyes** battles **Kwinn the Eskimo** in a plane thousands of feet above the ground! Will one of them fall to his death? Will *both* of them?! Written by **Larry Hama**, penciled by **Mike Vosburg**, and inked by **John D'Agostino**. 32 pages. Mando paper. $1.50.

☐ **G.I. JOE EUROPEAN MISSIONS** #6 — A top secret bomber has crashed! Can **Hawk** and **Flint** recover it in time? If not, the bomber's going to fall into the clutches of **Cobra**! "Gunships" is scripted by **Steve White** and drawn by **Robin Smith**. 24 pages. Mando Offset paper. Direct sales only. $1.50.

☐ **STRAY TOASTERS** Limited Series #3 — Under normal circumstance, **Egon Rustamagik** might've been happy to be reunited with his old flame, **Abby**. But **Egon** is too wrapped up in trying to solve the erie murders that have been rocking the city. . .and it looks like **Abby's** son is involved! "Sicker Here than Over There" is written and illustrated by **Bill Sienkiewicz**. An Epic Graphic album. 48 pages. Hudson paper. For Mature Readers. $3.50.

Titles Shipping November 8 On Sale November 29

☐ **CAPTAIN AMERICA** #351 — **Captain America** and **Nick Fury** team up to knock out a top-secret S.H.I.E.L.D. base. But if you've been following NICK FURY VS. S.H.I.E.L.D. you know something about this mission is pretty fishy! Written by **Mark Gruenwald**, penciled by **Kieron Dwyer**, and inked by **Al Milgrom**. 75¢.

☐ **SOLO AVENGERS** #16 — Two, two, two tales of Avenging action in a single comic book!

It's been a long time since **Hawkeye** and the **Black Widow** fought as a team. But now, it looks like they may die together unless they can find a way to thwart the plans of **A.I.M.**! Written by **Mark Gruenwald**, penciled by **Al Milgrom**, and inked by **Jose Marzan**.

Also: The giant robot, **Red Ronin**, is out of control! And the only one who can halt its mad rampage is—the winsome **Wasp**! Written by **Fabian Nicieza**, penciled by **Tom Morgan**, and inked by **Mark McKenna**. 75¢.

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☐ **D.P.7** #29 — An assassin stalks the **D.P.7** team. Who hired him? And why have the **D.P.7** members been marked for death? The answers give a frightening new twist to the war raging in the New Universe! "Deadweight" is written by **Mark Gruenwald**, penciled by **Paul Ryan**, and inked by **Danny Bulanadi**. 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. Direct sales only. $1.50.

☐ **ALF** #13 — **ALF** thought it'd be no problem to give the **Tanners** a peek at his ten-foot-tall Melmacian robot. But his fur really starts to fly when the robot takes over the **Tanners'** house. . .as his first step towards taking over the world! "Role of the Dice" is written by **Michael Gallagher**, penciled by **Dave Manak**, and inked by **Marie Severin**. $1.00.

☐ **THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN** #313 — An Inferno tie-in. Things were looking good for **Doctor Curt Connors**. After years of monstrous transformations, he had finally gained control over his reptilian alter ego. But when Inferno strikes, the lethal **Lizard** goes wild! Written by **David Micheline** and illustrated by **Todd McFarlane**. $1.00.

☐ **GROO THE WANDERER** #49 — An old friend of **Groo's** is on the way! Which friend is it? And more importantly, why would anyone want to meet up with the bumbling barbarian more than once? Written and illustrated by **Sergio Aragonés** and spindled by **Mark Evanier**. An Epic Comic. 32 pages. $1.00.

☐ **HEATHCLIFF** #31 — Christmas may never be the same after **Heathcliff** stars in a wild and wacky sendup of **Dickens'** classic "A Christmas Carol!" But then, what else would you expect from "That Little Dickens!" Scripted by **Michael Gallagher**, penciled by **Warren Kremer**, and inked by **Jacqueline Roettcher**. $1.00.

☐ **ALPHA FLIGHT** #68 — The **Dream Queen** has arrived on Earth! If the **Alphans** thought they had it rough before, they ain't seen nothing yet! And if they fail to stop her the Earth will plunge into chaos! "All We Are" is written by **James D. Hudnall**, penciled by **John Calimee**, and inked by **Sam de la Rosa**. Direct sales only. 32 pages. Mando paper. $1.50.

☐ **THE NEW MUTANTS** #73 — Inferno reaches its thrilling climax in this double-sized spectacular! **Magik vs. S'ym**--the final confrontation! Who will rule Limbo? Who will rule Earth? And what will be the final fate of **Magik**? Written by **Louise Simonson** and drawn by **Bret Blevins**. 48 pages. $1.50.

☐ **POWERLINE** #5 — **Shadow Dwellers** are being killed! Who's responsible? And will the killer's next targets be. . .the **Powerline** kids? "Child's Play" is written by **D.G. Chichester** and **Margaret Clark** and illustrated by **Gray Morrow**. An Epic Comic. 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. Direct sales only. $1.50.

☐ **POWER PACK** #44 — An Inferno tie-in. It won't be easy for **Power Pack** to help the **New Mutants** wrap up Inferno. But that's going to be a breeze compared to facing their parents, now that their folks know about their dual identities! Written and penciled by **Jon Bogdanove** and inked by **Russ Heath**. Direct sales only. 32 pages. Mando paper. $1.50.

☐ **WOLVERINE** #5 — **Wolverine** takes the drug war into the heart of crime lord **General Coy's** home turf! Trouble is, it looks like this time **General Coy** is ready for him! Written by **Chris Claremont**, penciled by **John Buscema**, and inked by **Al Williamson**. 32 pages. Baxter paper. $1.50.

MARVEL MASTERWORKS™

Vol. 7 : THE X-MEN —

Re-presenting THE X-MEN #s 11-21 in a high-quality hardcover edition! Relive the original X-Men's first meetings with some of their most titanic foes, including the **Sentinels**, the **Stranger**, and the **Juggernaut**! And you won't want to miss seeing the **X-Men** defeated by **Magneto**! Written by

A Limited Series is a title which will only run for a specific number of issues.
A Graphic Novel is an 8 ½" x 11" paperback edition.
A Digest is a 4¾" x 6⅝" paperback edition.
A Trade Paperback is a 7" x 10" paperback edition.
A Graphic Album is a high quality, stiff-covered comic book edition.
A Direct Sales title is available only at selected outlets.
Shipping Date refers to when the comics leave the printer.

☐ **THE 'NAM MAGAZINE** #8 — Re-presenting from THE 'NAM #s 15 and 16: **Ed Marks** has finally come home from the 'Nam. . .but "home" is a lot different from the way it used to be! And while **Ed** may be home, his buddies are still trapped in a war zone far from home! Written by **Doug Murray**, penciled by **Michael Golden**, and inked by **Bob Camp**. A 48-page, black and white Marvel magazine. $2.00.

☐ **THE SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN** #157 — It begins as a rescue mission. But for **Conan**, it becomes much more as a young boy and his grandfather teach the savage Cimmerian a lesson about sacrifice! "The Wrath of Crom" is written by **Don Kraar**, penciled by **Dale Eaglesham**, and inked by **Pat Redding**. Cover painting by **Dorian**. A 64-page, black and white Marvel magazine. For mature readers. $2.00.

☐ **HAVOK AND WOLVERINE: MELTDOWN** Limited Series #1 — What do Chernobyl, a Mexican bar brawl, and the bubonic plague have in common? When **Hovok** and **Wolverine** find out, they may be sorry they did! Written by **Walt** and **Louise Simonson** and illustrated by **Jon J. Muth** and **Kent Williams**. An Epic Graphic Album. Direct sales only. 48 pages. $3.50.

Titles Shipping November 15 On Sale December 6

☐ **MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE** #72 — The holiday season is on its way! Gift ideas are in the papers, on TV. . .and in the pages of MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE! It's the Marvel Image Catalog and it's chock full of special gift ideas from Graphic Novels and lithographs to videos and toys! Plus: the news on DINO-RIDERS, the wit of **Stan's Soapbox**, the whimsy of **Hembeck**, the wisdom of **Mark's Remarks**, and more! Direct sales only. 50¢.

☐ **THE INCREDIBLE HULK** #353 — Just when you least expected it--**Bruce Banner** is back! But when the **Hulk's** employer and girlfriend find themselves in serious trouble, can the grey goliath save them without revealing his true identity? Written by **Peter David**, penciled by **Jeff Purves**, and inked by **Terry Austin**. 75c.

☐ **CONAN THE BARBARIAN** #216 — All **Conan** wanted was to steal the **Zeddite** cult's jeweled sacrificial blade. But now the entire cult is after him—and they want his blood! Will **Conan** lose his life to "The Blade of Zed"? Written and drawn by **Val Semeiks**. $1.00.

☐ **G.I. JOE** #84 — All your favorite **Joes** are on hand to answer the questions you've been wondering about for so long! What happened to **Cobra Commander's** body after he died? Who is **Billy's** mysterious mother? And why did the sinister **Zartan** try to kill **Snake-Eyes** before **Snake-Eyes** became a **Joe**? "Convergence of Destinies" is scripted by **Lary Hama** with layouts by **Marshall Rogers** and finished art by **Randy Emberlin**. $1.00

☐ **MARVEL TALES** #221 — Re-presenting from THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #82: The **Punisher's** showing no mercy as he mows down lawbreakers left and right! But those "lawbreakers" are jaywalkers and litterbugs! **Spidey** and **Cloak** and **Dagger** have to stop him--before they become the next targets on his list! "Stalkers in the Shadows" is scripted by **Bill Mantlo**, penciled by **Al Milgrom**, and inked by **Jim Mooney**, with a new cover by **Mike Zeck**. 75¢.

☐ **THE AVENGERS** #301 — You'd think that after all that's been happening to the **Avengers** lately, they'd be given a break! But no one counted on the vengeance of the last survivor of Xandar! What makes that vengeance so dangerous, is that the Xandarian is clad in the ultimate super-powered **Nova** costume! Guest-starring **Starfox** and **Firelord**. Written by **Mark Gruenwald**, penciled by **John Buscema**, and inked by **Tom Palmer**. 75¢.

☐ **MUPPET BABIES** #24 — In the tradition of the Emmy Award winning MUPPET BABIES TV show, the comic book tries a daring new format! Photos mix with drawings in a milestone experiment as the **Muppet Babies** head for--the moon! Written by **Laura Hitchcock**, penciled by **Marie Severin**, and inked by **Jacqueline Roettcher**. $1.00

☐ **THE PUNISHER** #17 — has killed the **Kingpin's** top assassin! And now, he's out to smash the **Kingpin's** casino to boot! But the **Punisher** better watch out--the **Kingpin** can only be pushed so far! "Squeeze Play" is written by **Mike Baron**, penciled by **Whilce Portaccio** and inked by **Scott Williams**. $1.00.

☐ **THE LIGHT AND DARKNESS WAR** #4 — **Lazarus Jones** and the **Light Gang** are back at a place they never expected to see again--Earth! And they're locked in a brutal battle against the weapons and forces of **Niles Odom**, the industrialist who is betraying Earth to the unholy Darkness forces of **Lord Na!** To escape from the trap **Niles Odom** has in the **Light Gang** has to die—and wait'll you see who it is! Written by **Tom Veitch** and illustrated by **Cam Kennedy**. An Epic comic. 32 pages. Hudson paper. For mature readers. $1.95.

☐ **THE SUB-MARINER** Limited Series #5 — OK, Axis, here we come! The Nazis don't stand a chance when **Namor** joins forces with **Captain America** and **Bucky** and the original **Human Torch** and **Toro** to become the mighty **Invaders**! Written by **Roy** and **Dann Thomas**, penciled by **Rich Buckler**, and inked by **Bob McLeod**. 32 pages. $1.50.

☐ **THE UNCANNY X-MEN** #242 — If you think Inferno ended in THE NEW MUTANTS--you're wrong! Inferno takes its most devastating turn yet with a Mutant Civil War! It's **X-Men** vs. **X-Factor**! And it's a giant-sized block-buster that concludes in X-FACTOR #38! Written by **Chris Claremont**, penciled by **Mark Silvestri**, and inked by **Dan Green**. 48 pages. $1.50.

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☐ **JUSTICE** #29 — Deep in the frozen wastelands of Siberia, **Justice** and the **Medusa Web** must battle their way to the headquarters of the top-secret Siberian Project! If they don't make it, **Psi-Force** is doomed! Written by **Peter David** and illustrated by **Lee Weeks**. Direct sales only. $1.50.

MARVEL MASTERWORKS™

Vol. 3 : THE X-MEN

If you missed it last year, here's a second chance to pick up our long-lasting hardcover collection of THE X-MEN #s 1 – 10! See the first apperances of collection of the **X-Men**, **Magneto**, **Quicksilver** and the **Scarlet Witch**, and more evil mutants than you can shake a DNA spiral at! Written by **Stan Lee** and illustrated by **Jack Kirby**. 240 pages. Second printing. $29.95.

☐ **MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS** #15 — Two serials and two complete titanic tales in this issue!

COLOSSUS Part VI: The CIA corners **Colossus**! Written by **Ann Nocenti**, penciled by **Rick Leonardi**, and inked by **Bob Wiacek**.

THE BLACK PANTHER Part III: The **Black Panther** discovers that the closer he gets to the secrets of his mother's past, the deadlier the danger! Written by **Don McGregor**, penciled by **Gene Colan**, and inked by **Tom Palmer**.

Plus complete in this issue:

When the bestial **Bengal** fought **Daredevil**, the Man Without Fear almost didn't survive. But now the **Bengal** has taken on someone as fierce and unrelenting as he is: the Native American Avenger, **Red Wolf**! Written by **Fabian Nicieza**, penciled by **Javier Saltares**, inked by **Mark McKenna**.

It's a confrontation not even we thought would happen! **Marvel Girl** vs. **Phoenix**! And the climax is unforgettable! Written by **Bobbie Chase** and illustrated by **Dwayne Turner**. 32 pages. $1.25.

☐ **DRAGON'S CLAWS** #6 — The action spans half the war-ravaged globe as part of the **Dragon's Claws** team is sent to Canada to capture a bizarre vigilante killer. Meanwhile, **Dweller** and **Kurran** in a special murder assignment. But is it to stop a murder—or commit one? "Craven Idols" is written by **Simon Furman** and illustrated by **Geoff Senior** 24 pages. Direct sales only. Mando Offset paper. $1.50.

☐ **THE PUNISHER WAR JOURNAL** #4 — The **Punisher's** past has come back to haunt him! An old friend turns deadly foe when one of the **Punisher's** buddies from the Vietnam War becomes the sinister **Sniper**! Written by **Carl Potts** and drawn by **Jim Lee**. 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. $1.50.

☐ **BULLWINKLE AND ROCKY #9 — Bullwinkle** —a super hero?! You won't want to miss the fun when everyone's favorite moose dons cape and cowl to become the world's greatest hero, **the Masked Avenger!** Written by **Dave Manak**, penciled by **Ernie Colon**, and inked by **Al Milgrom**. $1.00.

☐ **SILVER SURFER #21** — The **Obliterator** is back and looking for revenge! And what better way for him to get back at the **Silver Surfer** than by destroying his homeworld, Zenn-La! Written by **Marshall Rogers** and **Michael Higgins**, penciled by **Marshall Rogers**, and inked by **Dave Cockrum**. $1.00

Titles Shipping November 22 On Sale December 13

☐ **FANTASTIC FOUR #234** — An Inferno crossover! The **Human Torch's** power is out of control! **Necrodamus** is about to sacrifice **Mantis! Kang** is in Limbo—and there's no telling whose side he's on! Can the **Thing** make the dread time lord mankind's ally before Limbo overwhelms Earth? And even if he does, does even **Kang** possess enough power to stop it? Written by **Steve Englehart**, penciled by **Keith Pollard**, and inked by **Joe Sinnott**. 75¢.

☐ **SPEEDBALL #7** — There's a mad killer on the loose! But why do only some of his victims die? It's up to **Speedball** to find out when he investigates the mystery of the **Hit and Miss Assassin**! Plotted and penciled by **Steve Ditko** and scripted by **Roger Stern**. 75¢.

☐ **THOR #401** — The war with the Egyptian gods may have ended, troubles are far from over! Now that he's been exiled to Earth, will the thunder god ever roam the halls of Asgard again? Written by **Tom DeFalco** and penciled by **Ron Frenz**. 75¢.

☐ **COUNT DUCKULA #3** — At last, **Count Duckula** seems to have become the vampire **Igor** always wanted him to be. But the results aren't quite what Igor expected! Plus: **Danger Mouse** is here! That's right, the world's greatest secret agent rodent now has hist own regular feature in COUNT DUCKULA! But leave it to **Danger Mouse's** geatest enemy, **Baron Silas Greenback**, to turn this debut into a harrowing "Twisted Tail!" Written by **Michael Gallagher** and drawn by **Warren Kremer**. $1.00.

☐ **TRANSFORMERS #50** — The saga of the **Underbase** reaches its shocking climax in this 48-page spectacular! The **Autobots** and **Decepticons** have to combine their forces. If they don't it'll spell doom not only for them but for the entire Earth as well! Whatever happens, one thing's for sure: The **Transformers** will never be the same again! "Darkstar" is written by **Bob Budiansky**, penciled by **Jose Delbo**, and inked by **Dave Hunt**. $1.50.

new universe™

☐ **THE STAR BRAND #18** — America has elected its first paranormal president. And he might even live long enough to take office, if the all-powerful **Star Baby** doesn't reach him first! Written and penciled by **John Byrne**. 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. Direct sales only. $1.50.

☐ **X-FACTOR #38** — The madness of Inferno continues! **Madelyn** vs. **Marvel Girl! Madelyne Pryor's** mysterious past revealed! The final fate of the **Angel!** In this giant-sized conclusion of the saga begun in X-MEN #242, will the **X-Men** and **X-Factor** emerge as friends—or as bitter enemies? Written by **Louise Simonson**, penciled by **Walt Simonson**, and inked by **Bob Wiacek**. 48 pages. $1.50.

☐ **CONAN SAGA #22** — Re-presenting from GIANT SIZE CONAN #s 1 and 2: It's a classice tale adapted from **Robert E. Howard's** novel, CONAN THE CONQUEROR. **Conan's** faced his share of wizards and evil priests in the past. But even **Conan** is pushed to his limits when he faces the mystic might of the **Heart of Ahriman!** "The Hour of the Dragon" is scripted by **Roy Thomas**, penciled by **Gil Kane**, and inked by **Tom Sutton**. A 64-page, black and white Marvel magazine. $2.00

☐ **AKIRA #6** — If you love action, this issue's the one for you! **Kaneda** confronts his former friend, **Tetsuo**, whose psycho-kinetic powers turn his rages into weapons of awe-some and murderous destruction. Meanwhile, the **Colonel**, whose secret government project helped make **Tetsuo** into the monster he's become, has his own worries; the most powerful of his mutant charges is on the verge of awakening. . .Akira! Written and illustrated by **Katsuhiro Otomo**. English adaptation by **Jo Duffy**. An Epic Graphic Album. 64 pages. For mature readers. $3.50.

☐ **THE DREAMWEAVER** Graphic Novel — It's been more than forty years since criminals cowered before the blazing guns of the **Dreamweaver**. Even armed with an arsenal of super-sophisticated weaponry, can the new **Dreamweaver** fight his way through the underworld to avenge his predeces-sor? Written by **Bill Mumy** and **Miguel Ferrer** and penciled, inked, and colored by **Gray Morrow**. 64 pages. 6.95.

Titles Shipping November 29 On Sale December 20

☐ **THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #148** — It's a horrific tie-in to Inferno! **Flash Thompson** and **Betty Brant** are attacked by **Betty's** dead husband—and by. . .**Spider-Man**? "Night of the Living Ned" is written by **Gerry Conway** and drawn by **Sal Buscema**. $1.00.

SUPER-VILLAIN™ CHECKLIST

A.I.M.: AVENGERS #301
The Bengal: MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #15
Dream Queen: ALPHA FLIGHT #68
Ego the Living Planet: SILVER SURFER #21
The Feathered Felon: MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #14
The Ghost: IRON MAN #240
The Hit & Miss Assassin: SPEEDBALL #7
Hobgoblin: WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #48
Kang: FANTASTIC FOUR #324
The Kingpin: THE PUNISHER #17
The Lizard: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #313
N' Astirh: EXCALIBUR #6
Necrodamus: FANTASTIC FOUR #324
Obliterator: SILVER SURFER #21
Red Ronin: SOLO AVENGERS #16
S'ym: THE NEW MUTANTS #73

☐ **IRON MAN** #240 — **Iron Man's** beaten him before, but now he's back and more dangerous than ever. Of course, that's not too surprising—after all, not even death can stop a **Ghost**! Written by **David Micheline** and **Bob Layton**, penciled by **Jackson Guice**, and inked by **Bob Layton**. 75¢.

☐ **CLASSIC X-MEN** #31 — Re-presenting from THE X-MEN #125: The **X-Men** are in Scotland, but their trip is anything but a vacation! What is the greatest threat to the **X-Men**—the mad mutant **Proteus** or the man called **Jason Wyngarde?** Written by **Chris Claremont**, penciled by **John Byrne**, and inked by **Terry Austin**. Plus an all-new tale starring **Professor X**, written by **Ann Nocenti** and illustrated by **John Bolton**. 32 pages. $1.25.

☐ **MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS** #16 — Every two weeks—four new stories!

COLOSSUS Part VII: **Colossus** seeks sanctuary in South America—but the place he finds is anything but! Written by **Ann Nocenti**, penciled by **Rick Leonardi**, and inked by **P. Craig Russell**.

BLACK PANTHER Part IV: The **Black Panther** is a prisoner. And it looks like the quest is about to come to an end—a bloody end! Written by **Don McGregor**, penciled by **Gene Colan**, and inked by **Tom Palmer**.

Plus complete in this issue:

The fragile peace in the Savage Land is about to be shattered by war between the Lemurians and the Swamp Men! How can **Ka-Zar** stop it? "This is a *Savage* Land!" is written by **Dwight Jon Zimmerman** and illustrated by **Jim Mooney**.

A strange creature who has been haunting **Longshot's** dreams suddenly takes **Longshot** on a journey—and it proves to be the most unsual trip he's ever taken. Written by **Ann Nocenti** and drawn by **Larry Dixon**. 32 pages. $1.25.

☐ **DOCTOR STRANGE** #3 — The **Defenders** are back from Limbo! But there's no time to celebrate. They're going to be too busy fighting the dragon that came back with them! Written by **Peter B. Gillis** and penciled by **Richard Case**. Mando paper. Direct sales only. $1.50.

☐ **THE 'NAM** #28 — Attempting to cut off a shipment of supplies, the men of the 23rd face a fateful choice: Will they cross the forbidden border into Cambodia or be killed by the Viet Cong convoy they've ambushed? "The Border Line" is written by **Doug Murray**, penciled by **Wayne Vansant**, and inked by **Goef Isherwood**. 32 pages. $1.50.

☐ **MARVEL PRESS POSTERS** — So you say your home is too plain and drab? Well, these pulse-pounding posters may be just what you need! Choose among **Wolverine** by **Kent Williams**, **Groo the Wanderer** by **Sergio Aragonés**, **Power Pack** by **June Brigman** and **P. Craig Russell**, and the **Silver Surfer** by **Moebius**. Or if the decision's too tough, feel free to buy 'em all! $4.95 each.

☐ **THE SILVER SURFER** Graphic Novel — The highly acclaimed **Stan Lee/Moebius** SILVER SUFER Limited Series from Epic Comics—collected in a single, long-lasting hardcover edition, completly recolored and fully painted by **John Wellington** under **Moebius's** supervision! And as if that weren't enough, you'll also find brand new pages of story and art, never-before-printed covers, and a peek at **Moebius's** sketchbook! Written by **Stan Lee** and illustrated by **Moebius**. 72 pages. $19.95.

NEWSWATCH

A COLLECTION OF CONTEMPORARY COMMENTS CONCERNING CONAN, A CORNUCOPIA OF CHARACTERS, AND A CHAP CALLED COLLAZO

CONAN TM and © 1988 by Conan Properties, Inc.

ITEM: Six years ago, the classic CONAN team of writer **Roy Thomas** and penciler **John Buscema** teamed up to present a very special tale in CONAN THE BARBARIAN ANNUAL #7. And now, they're teaming again to tell the rest of the story in the CONAN OF THE ISLES Graphic Novel!

CONAN OF THE ISLES is adapted from the novel by noted fantasy authors **L. Sprague de Camp** and **Lin Carter**, and it's a **CONAN** story unlike any other -- the tale of Conan's last recorded adventure!

The Graphic Novel opens in a time quite different than Conan's present. For one thing, Conan is a grandfather, and his Kingdom is finally at peace. But when catastrophe strikes in the menacing form of the **Terror**, Conan has no choice but to hand his throne over to his son and embark on one final quest--a quest that ultimately takes him to the fabled New World that lies beyond the Western Ocean!

The 96-page Graphic Novel will sell for $8.95 at comics shops everywhere, and it's a must for anyone interested in the savage Cimmerian! So pick up a copy or two for those "special people" on your holiday gift list. After all, no blood-thirsty barbarian should be without one!

ITEM: You say you never had the chance to pick up the titanic, oversized Marvel Universe poster drawn by **Ed Hannigan** and **Joe Rubinstein**? You say you can't live without a 50" by 50" poster depicting just about every super hero in the whole blamed Marvel Universe?

Well, you're not alone! The poster sold out so quickly that a whole lot of people missed out. In fact, so many of you missed getting the poster that we're going to give you another crack at it! Yup, we're reprinting the poster, and before you know it, your local comics shops will once again come alive with more Marvel characters than you can shake an ultimate nullifier at! The poster will sell for $17.95, So start saving up your pennies now! Remember: You've been warned!

ITEM: For some time now, **Hector Collazo** has been a regular around these parts. The Bullpen artist has been a real jack of all trades; his chores have ranged form various production work to donning a **Spider-Man** costume and taking on the **Green Goblin** in the Marvel hallways! But now, Hector's packing his bag and moving down south.

We're all going to miss Hector while he's gone. But don't think for a minute that he's abandoning Marvel completely! Hector's already penciled a story for PSI-FORCE and inked a THOR tale. And with talent like Hector's there's bound to be more freelance work on the way!

THE TOP TEN

July was mutant month in the Top Ten only THE PUNISHER WAR JOURNAL #1 and THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #8 kept it from being a solid mutant book sweep! In case you're wondering what our Top Ten is, it's Marvel's ten best-selling titles sold in the Direct Sales market. It's compiled by our Vice President Direct Sales, **Carol Kalish**. And heres how they stacked up:

1 — WOLVERINE #1
2 — EXCALIBUR #2
3 — X-MEN #237
4 — X-MEN #236
5 — THE PUNISHER WAR JOURNAL #1
6 — X-TERMINATORS #2
7 — X-FACTOR #34
8 — MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #6
9 — MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #7
10 — THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #8

MARVEL TRIVIA QUIZ

3. To what alien
find **Kamo Tharn**
A) the **Sinalinas**
B) the **Aakon**
C) the **Cotati**
D) **Poppies**

Sif, **Thor** was free to stop the
riage because the Surfer took
Thor's fight with:
A) **Durok the Demolisher**
B) **Ranok the Ravager**
C) **Denak the D**
D) **Jocko** fro

Franklin Richards

Norrin Radd

of his new series?

Ie Lumpkin
Shalla Bal's smal

Mantis

MARK'S REMARKS

It's like this. About two years back, I somehow got the idea to do mini-editorials on the letters pages of the books I edited (AVENGERS, WEST COAST AVENGERS, SOLO AVENGERS, and IRON MAN) about any old subject that I thought might be of some interest to fankind at large. The basic concept was to emulate Stan's Soapbox column in the Bullpen Bulletin page of old, and have a forum where I could communicate directly with my readership.

So three or four times a month, for some ninety-three installments, I cranked out my M's Rems on assorted topics ranging from the practical to the high-falutin'. I must have hit a responsive chord now and then because the column certainly got its share of reader mail. My column, "How Not to Break Into the Comics Industry," was my all-time bad mail getter—apparently a number of people didn't want to know how easy it was to make an unfavorable impression on one's prospective employer, the editor. But. . .since the positive responses I got generally outweighed the negative, I felt like the time I invested in doing Mark's Remarks was well-spent.

When I was promoted to Executive Editor and my book assignments began slipping away from me into the capable hands of others (okay, so it was **Howard Mackie's**—what of it?), the space available to me for my dubious diatribes began to dwindle. With AVENGERS and SOLO AVENGERS leaving my editorial nest in the next few months, the letters page space available to me will be down to nothing. It sure looked to me like I'd remarked my last when ace MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE editor **Jim Salicrup** asked me if I'd care to continue my award-losing column in Marvel's Official Newsmagazine. I said yes, and huzzah, readers—just when you thought it was safe to read comics again, here I am!

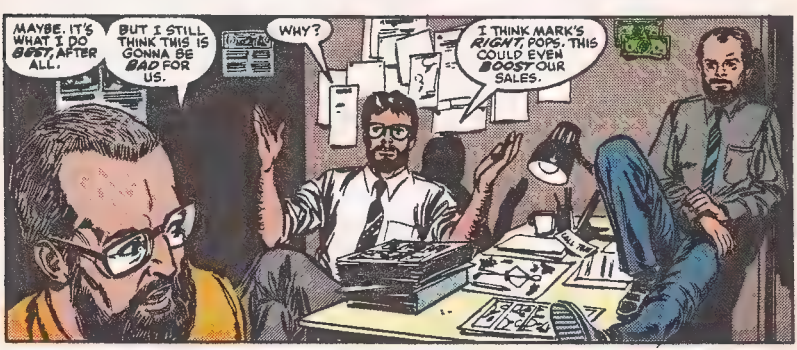
So now that I've given you the establishing shot, whatever should my first new improved column be about?

Hey, I know. Assuming that my MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE readership is not identical to the readership of the books I edited, it occurs to me that not all of you know who I am or what makes me think my opinions on matters comic are worth sharing. So what I think I'll do is give you a brief autobiographical sketch of myself.

Okay. I was born thirty-five years ago in a small town in Wisconsin (population then as now about 50,000). My mother worked in a drug store which had a comic book rack when I was very small, which enabled me to paw through the merchandise without anybody telling me this wasn't a library. My first comic book purchases were CASPER and SPOOKY, but by the age of five, I was aware of **Superman** from the old television show and bought my first SUPERMAN comic, the terrific issue where he first fought **Titano the Super-Ape**. At the time, there weren't any Marvels, so don't blame me for my reading tastes!

My father was an avid reader of comics in the 40's (so he certainly had no objections to my reading them) and whenever we took family car trips I'd cajole him into telling me anything he could remember about the comics he read as a kid. He told me all about **the Justice Society, the Human Torch**, and **the Sub-Mariner** well before they made their comic book reappearances in the 60's.

When I was nine years old, I bought my first Marvel Comic (FANTASTIC FOUR #8 featuring **the Puppet Master**) while on a car trip to Racine. The distribution of the early Marvels was pretty spotty in my home town, and we didn't begin to get them in regularly till FF #11. There was something very exciting about those early FFs. They lacked the slickness and polish of the early-60s DCs, but there was a crude sense of danger and excitement in them that you just could not find elsewhere. While JUSTICE LEAGUE was still my favorite comic until 1966 or so, I found myself spending more and more of my allowance on Marvels. I was a mere lad of ten when **Stan Lee** printed a letter of mine in FANTASTIC FOUR #20. I won't claim that it changed my life, but I got some great letters from other comics readers, including some Golden Age comics fan who sent be black and white snapshots of some classic 40's


MAYBE. IT'S WHAT I DO BEST, AFTER ALL.
BUT I STILL THINK THIS IS GONNA BE BAD FOR US.
WHY?
I THINK MARK'S RIGHT, POPS. THIS COULD EVEN BOOST OUR SALES.

John Byrne, Howard Mackie, and Mark Gruenwald discuss comic book strategy in THE STARBRAND #11.

--RALPH FINALLY SHOWED UP. LET'S TALK ABOUT THAT PLOT FOR ISSUE SIXTY, OKAY?
IN A MINUTE, MARK. IT ISN'T EVERY DAY I GET TO DRAW THE REAL THING... ARGUING WITH HIS HAT!

Mark and artist George Perez from MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE #60.

comic book covers, including the first **Torch/Sub-Mariner** battle. I count myself fortunate to have been able to purchase AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #1, HULK #1, AVENGERS #1, and X-MEN #1 off the newsstand as they came out. Eventually I even discovered that it was more fun to play **Captain America** than **Superman**---you had to pretend you could fly and had super-strength and x-ray vision, but as long as you had a garbage can lid and a reckless nature, you could actually do whatever **Cap** could--though not quite as well.

When I was in kindergarten, the wait between monthly comic books became unbearable so I decided to start drawing my own stories to while away the time in between. Every Sunday afternoon my dad, mom, and sis would go to my grandparents' house for dinner and I'd spend all my non-eating time working on my ongoing super hero opus, making up the story as I went along, drawing with ballpoint pen and Crayolas on ruled tablet pages. It took me about six months to finish one tablet. I did thirteen of them up through sixth grade, when I switched to other media (India ink and colored pencils). Yes, I still have those old tablets, and whenever I'm stuck for ideas I go back to them--just kidding--the "stories" were derivitive, virtually plotless stuff.

Comic books stimulated my interest in science, particularly astronomy, as well as science fiction and mythology, mainly Greek and Norse. When I was in early grade school, all my friends read comic books. By the time I was in sixth grade, there weren't very many at all. I was still drawing comic stories for my own amusement, having finally graduated into doing my own characters by junior high. In high school, I realized that art teachers would not let me do comics in class, so I decided not to take any art courses (a mistake). When I got to college, however, I decided to become an Art major, which was somewhat difficult with no high school art credentials. My school (the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh) let me into the program anyway. Since I was mostly interested in comics and thought I knew more than they did about them, my art profs had their hands full trying to teach me the fundamentals of art, you can bet. Sure wish I hadn't been such a wise guy. I might actually be making my living as an artist today.

Since I couldn't do comics in my art classes, I worked on a 250-page "graphic novel" in my spare time (which, to date, only 23 people have ever read). By my junior year, though, I'd talked my profs into letting me do independent study in comic illustration, which enabled me to get course credit for the weekly college newspaper comic strip I did about a campus super hero. Being published is the greatest learning experience in the world--it didn't take too many people saying "I couldn't figure out which order to read the panels in" for me to abandon my avant-garde sense of panel layout.

I graduated with an Art Major, Literature Minor in December 1975. I worked up a comic art portfolio and took it to New York City. Two years or so earlier, during a trip to New York for the July Comic Art Convention, I showed my wares to DC personnel who were looking for recruits into their Junior Woodchuck program. Though **Carmine Infantino** expressed some interest in my work, I decided to finish school first. I thereby avoided being branded a Woodchuck for the rest of my life! I made an appointment with **Julius Schwartz**, my all-time favorite editor, and showed him my stuff. He was quite unimpressed by my work, and taking his criticisms to heart, I was too abashed to take the same portfolio to Marvel. I returned in April, however, with an all-new almost-as-unimpressive portfolio, and once again found no doors opening magically for me.

But I did realize that if I was indeed serious about getting into the comics industry, I would have to move to the big bad city, and so a month later I did. For six months, I lived on savings, and changing tacks, tried working up a writing portfolio. Then a temp job led into a regular job in the file room at one of New York's largest banks. With steady income, I had enough cash to put together and publish a fanzine called **Omniverse**, which I hoped would serve as a portfolio of all my various editorial, production, writing, and design skills.* I made sure to send out free copies of the 'zine to every professional in the business, among whom was **Jim Shooter**, brand new editor in chief of Marvel. **Jim** must have thought the magazine showed I had some ability, for he hired me as an assistant editor in February of 1978. (There were only four assistant editors in those days, not the thirteen there are today.)

I began on staff as the liaison to all the writer-editors around at the time. Now, ten years later, I'm Marvel's Executive Editor. The end. I hope this long version of the origin of **Mark Gruenwald** hasn't cured too many insomniacs. There must be *somebody* out there who's curious how one guy broke into the biz (besides my mother, I mean.)

Next month -- a topic of greater interest (provided, I think of one).

---Mark Gruenwald

*Devoted to the subject of reality as portrayed in the comic books, **Omniverse's** main claim to the fame was that it was the first fanzine with footnotes.

Mark speaks to an unseen Mike Higgins and John Byrne in THE STARBRAND #11.

X-TRA THE MUTANT REPORT X-TRA

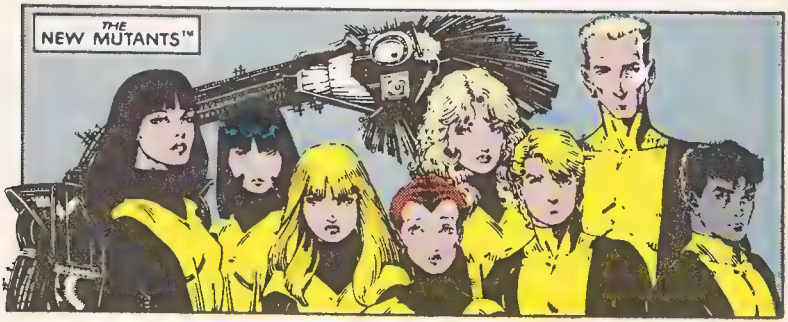
VOLUME 3 "THE NEXT STEP IN NEWS EVOLUTION" NUMBER 18

art adams interview

Art Adams made a great impression on comics fans with his very first professional work on a series, drawing the LONGSHOT Limited Series written by Ann Nocenti. Longshot himself has gone on to become a member of the X-Men, and Mojo and Spiral, two of the characters that Art visually designed for LONGSHOT, have also turned up frequently in various Marvel stories. Although Art has not yet taken on work as the regular artist for a continuing series, he has continued to attract attention with his work on annuals for THE X MEN, THE NEW MUTANTS, and WEB OF SPIDER-MAN and his covers for CLASSIC X-MEN. He has also won the San Diego Comic Convention's Russ Manning Award, he has shared a Golden Apple Award for LONGSHOT, and, most recently, he shared a Harvey Award for the GUMBY SUMMER FUN SPECIAL he drew for Comico.

Currently, he and Ann Nocenti are laying out plans for a new LONGSHOT series, which has not yet been scheduled. MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE decided to interview Art to survey his career in comics so far.

As we are going to press, we learned that Art will be drawing X-FACTOR #41 and #42. Keep watching upcoming Mutant Reports for more details.



MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: How did you get into the comic book business?

ART: Well, I was just lucky, really. I sent in Xeroxes of my stuff once, and everyone was very polite, but it was a no go. The next time I sent in Xeroxes, fortunately for me, Ann (Nocenti) had been shopping LONGSHOT around for about a year, and she needed someone to draw it, and I guess (laughs) she checked with everyone else and they said no. So I just got lucky and that's what I did.

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: How did you enjoy working on LONGSHOT and working with Ann?

ART: Oh, I enjoyed it a great deal. I kind of feel that Ann and I grew up together in comics, because she really hadn't written that much when LONGSHOT came about and it was my first job. I don't know if I've enjoyed working with anybody as much as I've enjoyed working with Ann, and I look forward to working with her again.

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: Why is that?

ART: For the first LONGSHOT series we didn't co-plot; it was all hers. We did a WEB OF SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL; I think she plotted all of that, also, I'm hoping that on the (next) LONGSHOT series that there will be more co-plotting. On the first issue, I think it's going to be all hers, but on the following issues, I think it's going to be more both of us. And of course when I get the plot I add in my own little bits. I guess that's not really co-plotting, but I do put my two cents in.

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: What was it like working on the first issue of LONGSHOT?

ART: The first issue of LONGSHOT took me eight months to draw, which is not good. But Louise Simonson, who was the editor on LONGSHOT, was very nice to me (laughs). The second issue went much faster.

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: What can you tell us about the upcoming LONGSHOT series?

ART: Well, Ann and I would like it to be a regular series. What's the story going to be? I don't know if we've decided too much I think all we've decided so far is that Longshot's going to travel around and have adventures

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: Originally, this was a graphic novel.

ART: That's right. That was a long time ago. Originally Ann had written a plot for LONGSHOT Graphic Novel. I had it, and another project came up and I asked Ann if she wouldn't mind holding off on the graphic novel. And Ann said, "No problem." Then something else came up. Also, the graphic novel plot was very good, but it was very, very tight. It would have been eight to ten panel pages. It would have been more fun to draw as a mini-series, and that's how the mini-series first came about. With the graphic novel we only had 60 to 80 pages to play with, but with the mini-series we have, oh, I think, 160 pages. I was all set to do it as a mini-series, but Ann decided she'd just as soon not do the graphic novel (plot), and just go ahead and do something else. It had been two years, I think, since she had written the graphic novel plot, and she had gotten much better as a writer, and she looked at it and didn't feel very good about it.

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: So this is going to be a whole different story.

ART: A whole different story, yeah. We've talked a little bit about it, mostly about various characters we'd both like to have something to do with, so we'll probably be guest-starring lots and lots of Marvel characters.

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: Anyone in particular?

ART: I think we have plans so far for the Hulk and Thor.

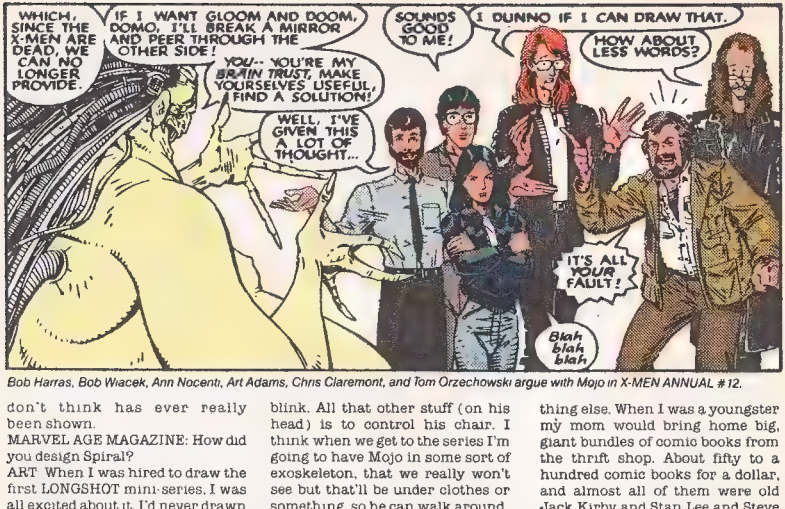
MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: What do you like about drawing LONGSHOT?

ART: I have lots of fun drawing the already established Marvel characters, but Longshot, I feel, is mine.

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: What did you have in mind when you designed Longshot's appearance?

ART: Ann suggested she would like him not to look like every other super hero, so that's what I was aiming for. Ann said that he was an alien and should only have four fingers (on each hand). He also has some kind of weird spine that I

Art's cover illustration for THE ASGARDIAN WARS Trade Paperback.


WHICH, SINCE THE X-MEN ARE DEAD, WE CAN NO LONGER PROVIDE.
IF I WANT GLOOM AND DOOM, DOMO, I'LL BREAK A MIRROR AND PEER THROUGH THE OTHER SIDE!
YOU-- YOU'RE MY BRAIN TRUST, MAKE YOURSELVES USEFUL, FIND A SOLUTION!
WELL, I'VE GIVEN THIS A LOT OF THOUGHT...
SOUNDS GOOD TO ME!
I DUNNO IF I CAN DRAW THAT.
HOW ABOUT LESS WORDS?
IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT!
Blah blah blah

Bob Harras, Bob Wiacek, Ann Nocenti, Art Adams, Chris Claremont, and Tom Orzechowski argue with Mojo in X-MEN ANNUAL #12.

don't think has ever really been shown.

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: How did you design Spiral?

ART: When I was hired to draw the first LONGSHOT mini-series, I was all excited about it. I'd never drawn any other comics before. So I just sat down and I figured, well, I ought to have some kind of contribution to this: I'm going to design a whole bunch of supporting characters for this series. So I drew about twenty different alien types of characters, lots of which showed up in LONGSHOT 1 through 3, maybe in issue 4, also. But Ann never really used any of them except Spiral. Spiral was one of the aliens I made up. Hopefully we'll be able to bring back some of the others.

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: Was Spiral, with her many arms, influenced by Indian Art?

ART: That's right.

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: What about Mojo?

ART: Mojo came about one day when I was visiting Marvel. I was sitting in Ann's office (this is when she was an editor there) and I wouldn't go away. We wanted to make a main villain for Longshot. Longshot's Doctor Doom. So we wanted to make him a big, fat, gross guy. But I wanted him to have something extra. Just a few days before that I had seen Malcolm McDowell on the David Letterman show. He was talking about how in (the movie) A CLOCKWORK ORANGE in one part he had his eyes held open for a long time, and that it caused scarring on his corneas. And I thought that was a terrible thing, so naturally it went on Mojo's head! Those wires holding his eyelids open are so he can't blink. All that other stuff (on his head) is to control his chair. I think when we get to the series I'm going to have Mojo in some sort of exoskeleton, that we really won't see but that'll be under clothes or something, so he can walk around.

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: Did you have anyone particular in mind when you designed Ricochet Rita?

ART: Lots of people who had seen the first issue of LONGSHOT thought he looked like me. I don't think he looked like me, but a lot of people thought he did. So I thought it'd be funny if in one issue a character looked like Ann. And (laughs) now she's a regular character, so I have to draw Ann all the time.

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: Both of you turn up as yourselves in a scene later in the series

ART: That's right.

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: And then you both turn up again in the latest X MEN ANNUAL

ART: That's right. I remember Chris Claremont wondering if anyone would notice on one page Ann as Ann was standing there talking, and then on the next page Richochet Rita was there, who's Ann again (laughs).

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE How did you first start reading comics?

ART: I think I got interested in drawing comics when I was about seven or eight, maybe nine years old. Before then I loved dinosaurs. I still like dinosaurs very much. At the time I wanted to be a paleontologist because I thought that all paleontologists did was draw dinosaurs. I found out paleontologists didn't really draw dinosaurs all the time so I had to find something else. When I was a youngster my mom would bring home big, giant bundles of comic books from the thrift shop. About fifty to a hundred comic books for a dollar, and almost all of them were old Jack Kirby and Stan Lee and Steve Ditko monster stories. And I like those a great deal. I really didn't care too much for super heroes at that time. I don't think that I really wanted to draw super heroes till I was thirteen or fourteen. I'm hoping that in some issue of LONGSHOT I can bring back one of those old Kirby monsters.

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: What's it like working with Chris Claremont?

ART: I like working with Chris a great deal. I don't know why I enjoy working with Ann and Chris because almost inevitably they give me more plot than I can fit into an issue. Maybe I enjoy the challenge. I don't know. They're both a lot of fun, and they both give me plenty of stories to do.

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: Apart from LONGSHOT, what are your favorite stories that you've done for Marvel?

ART: The WEB OF SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #2 I did some years ago. I was very happy with the way I had penciled it and the way Ann had written it. I thought it was very funny. I liked it a lot. But I didn't care for the way I'd inked it (and) it didn't print very well. I think that was when Marvel had first started using flexograph, and whoever colored it colored it with lots and lots of yellow. All of the black lines were broken up or printed grey. It really didn't look very good. So that was kind of heartbreaking. But I enjoyed working on that one a lot.

And, you know, I think my best work for Marvel so far has been the latest X-MEN ANNUAL.

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: Why is that?

ART: I think that the latest X-MEN ANNUAL was the first time that I felt that I was really a professional comic book artist, like I had some idea what I was doing. All my other jobs before, I was kind of feeling my way around. I think this is the first time I had any confidence, and I think it's partly because of it that I'm looking forward so much to the LONGSHOT series.

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: You have a definite flair for humor, as we see in the "X-BABIES" story in that annual, and in your treatments of Warlock.

ART: I think that I tend to put humor in all of my stuff, and I'm not exactly sure why. One of my favorite comic books was Chris (Claremont) and Walt's (Simonson) X-MEN/TEEN TITANS (team-up book). I thought that was really good. And I liked Walt's THORs a lot, all of that slam-bang action stuff. It was just building and building action. I like that a lot, but I don't seem to be asked to do that too often. I guess I established myself a bit as drawing things with humor, so I'm asked more and more to do humorous things, which I don't mind.

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: Still, LONGSHOT had a lot of highly dramatic situations and some grotesque-looking characters.

ART: Hey, that's the kind of stuff I like.

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: Since you like Walt's THOR, did you enjoy doing NEW MUTANTS SPECIAL and X-MEN ANNUAL from a few years ago that were both set in Asgard?

ART: They're supposed to be reprinting that fairly soon. Bob Harras asked me to do a cover (for the reprints.) That (story) was a lot of fun, but it was another deal where Chris had given me so much plot that it really would've been a better story if we'd had ten or twenty more pages.

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: It had plenty of characters in it.

ART: I have lots of fun doing those team books where there are lots of characters to play around with, and I don't really have time to get bored with any of them. So for the LONGSHOT series we're planning to have lots and lots of guest characters. I expect there'll be quite a supporting cast. Ann's already mentioned that in the first issue Longshot's supposed to meet some kind of zombie guy who's a humorous zombie (laughs). I figure he's going to stay around for a few issues.

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: Is there anyone you'd like to work with whom you haven't worked with yet?

ART: I'm looking forward very much to working with Walt. Walt and I are doing an AVENGERS Graphic Novel together. It has the Avengers and dinosaurs in it. I suppose I shouldn't give too much of it away. I'd like to work with Weezie (Louise Simonson) sometime.

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: How do you react to your fame and popularity among comics fans?

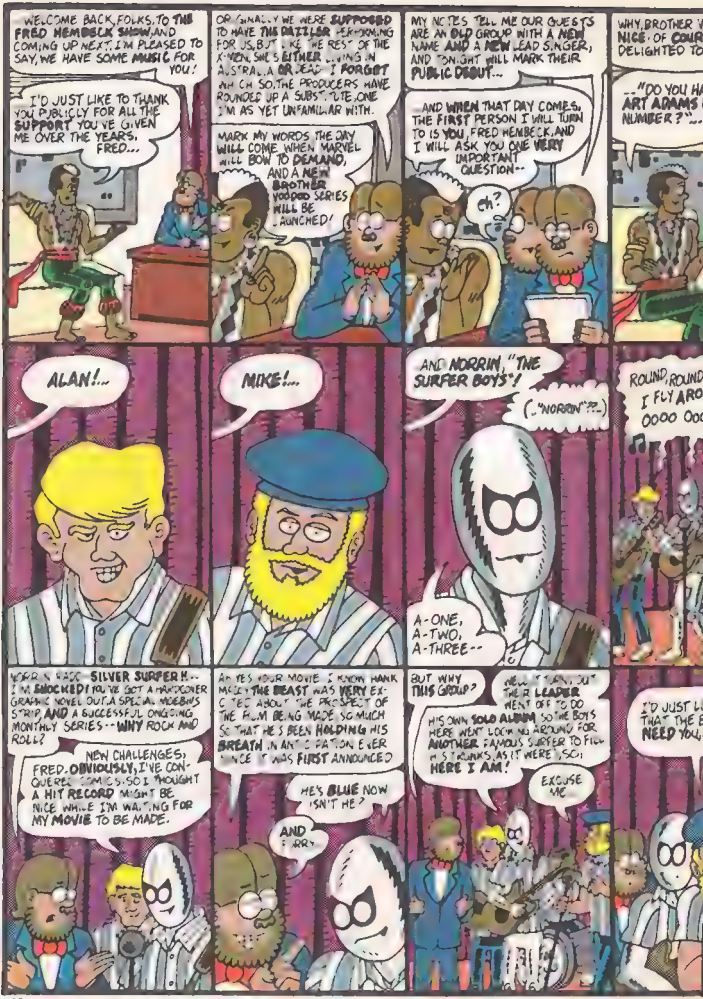
ART: Mostly I'm amazed by it, and maybe a little bit stunned. Especially since, like I was saying a little while ago, I haven't really felt like I was a professional comic book artist (until recently), so I really haven't known how to take people saying I'm such a good comic book artist. I appreciate all the free trips (to comics conventions) and I certainly like being told I've done a good job. But there's no drawbacks to it. I suppose I like it just fine.

I would still like drawing comics even if no one thought I did good work because drawing comics is what I've always wanted to do. So I've achieved my goal.

—*Peter Sanderson*

WELL, THAT'S ALL FOR THIS TIME!
WE HOPE YOU ENJOYED--
ALISON? ROGUE??
HE'S MY BOYFRIEND-- GRRR!
SEZ WHO-- SNAR!
Sigh!
I'M OKAY, KIDS, I GOT BETTER. I'M NOT A PICTURE NOMORE, ISN'T THAT NEAT?
WE GOTTA GO NOW-- SO UNTIL NEXT TIME...
...SEE YA LATER!
AM I GONNA REGRET THIS?
Sniff Sniff
HEY, GUYS...
...I THINK I FOUND...
...A WAY OUT!

Ann Nocenti as Ricochet Rita.


WELCOME BACK, FOLKS, TO THE FRED HEMBECK SHOW, AND COMING UP NEXT, I'M PLEASED TO SAY, WE HAVE SOME MUSIC FOR YOU!
I'D JUST LIKE TO THANK YOU PUBLICLY FOR ALL THE SUPPORT YOU'VE GIVEN ME OVER THE YEARS, FRED...
ORIGINALLY WE WERE SUPPOSED TO HAVE THIS TAYLOR SWIFT-WANNABE FILLING IN FOR US, BUT I LIKE THE REST OF THE X-MEN, SHE'S EITHER LIVING IN AUSTRALIA OR DEAD. I FORGET WHICH. SO THE PRODUCERS HAVE ROUNDED UP A SUBSTITUTE ONE I'M AS YET UNFAMILIAR WITH.
MARK MY WORDS THE DAY WILL COME WHEN MARVEL WILL BOW TO DEMAND, AND A NEW BROTHER VOODOO SERIES WILL BE LAUNCHED!
MY NOTES TELL ME OUR GUESTS ARE AN OLD GROUP WITH A NEW NAME AND A NEW LEAD SINGER, AND TONIGHT WILL MARK THEIR PUBLIC DEBUT...
...AND WHEN THAT DAY COMES, THE FIRST PERSON I WILL TURN TO IS YOU, FRED HEMBECK, AND I WILL ASK YOU ONE VERY IMPORTANT QUESTION--
EH?
WHY, BROTHER V... NICE OF COUR... DELIGHTED TO...
"DO YOU HA... ART ADAMS' ... NUMBER?"...
ALAN!...
MIKE!...
AND NORRIN, "THE SURFER BOYS"!
("NORRIN"?!...)
ROUND, ROUND... I FLY ARO... OOOO OOO...
A-ONE, A-TWO, A-THREE--
NORRIN RADD--SILVER SURFER H... I'M SHOCKED! YOU'VE GOT A HARDCORE GRAPHIC NOVEL OUT, A SPECIAL MOEBIUS STRIP, AND A SUCCESSFUL ONGOING MONTHLY SERIES--WHY ROCK AND ROLL?
NEW CHALLENGES, FRED. OBVIOUSLY, I'VE CONQUERED COMICS. SO I THOUGHT A HIT RECORD MIGHT BE NICE WHILE I'M WAITING FOR MY MOVIE TO BE MADE.
AH YES, YOUR MOVIE. I KNOW HANK MOLY THE BEAST WAS VERY EXCITED ABOUT THE PROSPECT OF THE FILM BEING MADE, SO MUCH SO THAT HE'S BEEN HOLDING HIS BREATH IN ANTICIPATION EVER SINCE IT WAS FIRST ANNOUNCED
HE'S BLUE NOW, ISN'T HE?
AND FURRY.
BUT WHY THIS GROUP?
WELL, IT SEEMS OUT THEIR LEADER WENT OFF TO DO HIS OWN SOLO ALBUM, SO THE BOYS WERE WENT LOOKING AROUND FOR ANOTHER FAMOUS SURFER TO FILL HIS TRUNKS, AS IT WERE, SO: HERE I AM!
EXCUSE ME
I'D JUST LI... THAT THE B... NEED YOU...

OODOO, HOW
SE I'D BE
DRA..
IVE
PHONE
GET A PHONE BOOK!!
hmmpf!
AND NOW, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, LET'S GIVE A BIG WELCOME TO--
CARL!..
, FLY AROUND,
UND
O EEEE
WELL, I ALWAYS TAKE MY BOARD 'CAUSE IT'S NEVER BEEN BEAT, AND I'VE NEVER MISSED YET FINDING PLANETS FOR GALACTUS TO EAT.
WAIT A MINUTE..
BUT WHEN I CAME TO EARTH I KNEW IT WOULDN'T BE RIGHT TO GOBBLE UP THIS PLANET ON A SATURDAY NIGHT
WAIT A MINUTE!..
OOOO OOOO EE..
WAIT A MINUTE
EEK..!
KE TO SAY
OYS DON'T
RIAN!..
JUST LIKE ME DON'T NEED PAUL OR GEORGE OR EVEN RINGO ESPECIALLY NOT RINGO. AND THE SURFER DOESN'T NEED REED OR SUE OR SHALLA BAL OR NOVA OR GALAC--
POWER COSMIC, DO YER STUFF!
=mmmpf=
EEE, IT'S TOO BAD YOU WEREN'T WITH OUR GROUP THE NIGHT WE WERE INDUCTED INTO THE ROCK AND ROLL HALL OF FAME!
BYE, FOLKS - I'LL BE SEEING YOU SOON!
=mmgrmpf=
UNTIL THEN.. SURF'S UP!

STAN'S SOAPBOX

So here I am, enjoying the sun in L.A., when the phone rings! Wouldn't-cha know it's **Slim-Jim Salicrup** calling from Marvel in New York? You can probably hear me groan clear across the country! Every time he calls it means more work for me. But hey, at least he didn't call collect!

"**Stan**," he says, "it's time for another Soapbox."

I try to beg off, saying how tired I am and how busy with other important projects, such as sitting in the sun and watching the grass grow. But Jim reminds me of the true believers who await each Soapbox with bated breath, and I can't let 'em down! By the way, did you ever see anyone unbate his breath? We'd better discuss that some other time.

Anyway, I guess it's never too early to remind you not to miss the great Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York. Even if you don't live in the big apple, you can catch it on TV (just as I'm gonna do). It'll be another chance to see one of the greatest, most gigantic objects ever created—the awesome **Spider-Man** balloon that was the hit of last year's parade!

Speaking of everyone's favorite web-head, last year he astonished the public by getting married in Shea Stadium—and this year he's been honored by being appointed National Safety Chairperson for UNICEF! You know what *that* means! Spidey will be making personal appearances all across the country. You'll be able to have your picture taken with him, and he'll judge you in costume contests, parties and parades! No way you'll forget, because you'll see him on UNICEF posters wherever you look!

But that's not all! To celebrate Halloween (**Dr. Strange's** favorite fun day), comic book stores everywhere will be featuring packages of MARVEL TREATS, those great pint-sized surprises that you can give to all the trick-or-treaters that come to your door, without having to worry about kids getting sick because of tainted candy! Each mini-comics package will contain sixteen tiny comic books, consisting of four identical issues of four different super heroes. That means you'll get (you lucky devil!) four SPIDER-MAN, four X-MEN, four FLINTSTONE KIDS and four ALF, so there'll always be the right title for any young taste. They'll only cost $2.95 per package and I'll bet I can guess what you're thinking right now! "Hey, after I give 'em away to the kids, I'll get a few for myself, too!"—right? Can't fool me, you scoundrel!

One last note before I turn you loose. If you have any influence over sinister Jim Salicrup, make him stop running these **Willie Lumpkin** cartoons, will ya? **Danny DeCarlo** and I did 'em years ago, when we were jolly juveniles! It's time to put the old guy out to pasture now—meaning Lumpkin, not DeCarlo!

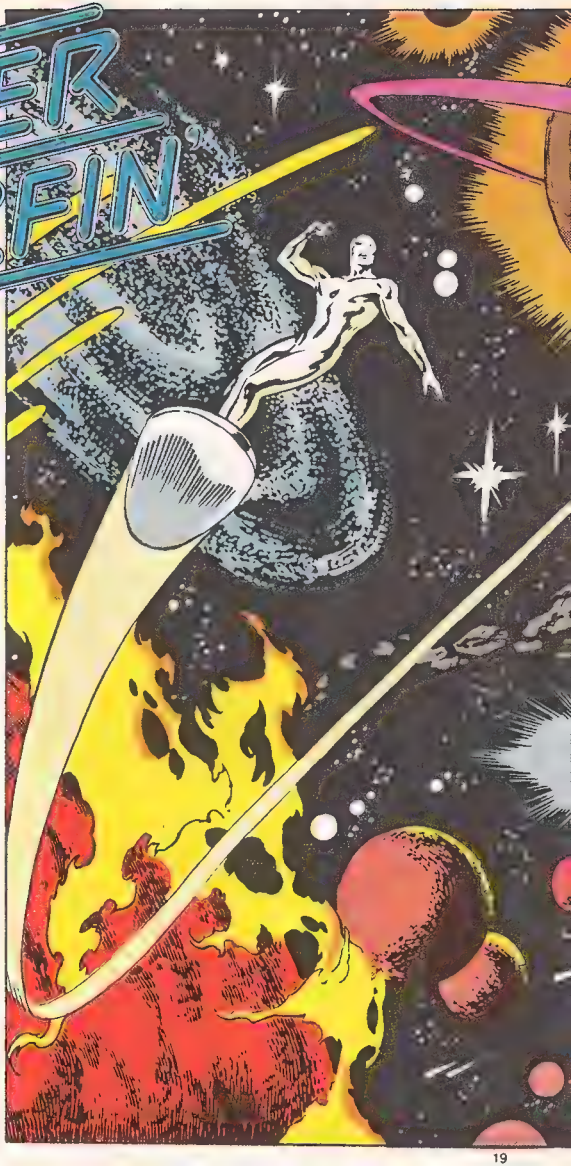
That's it for now, heroes. So, till **Dirty Harry** takes a bath, this is your sentimental ol' Soapboxer reminding you that the best lies just ahead!

Excelsior!

Stan

WILLIE LUMPKIN
OH OH! TOMORROW'S HALLOWEEN!
I HATE THAT HOLIDAY!
I GET IN TROUBLE EVERY HALLOWEEN
BUT THIS YEAR IT'LL BE DIFFERENT!
MR. LUMPKIN, LOOK'N MY JACK O' LANTERN!
CAREFUL, PAL, DON'T DROP IT!
THUD!
IT'S OKAY! YOU CAN HAVE IT! I HAVE ANOTHER ONE!
GLUB!
HOLY COW! I CAN'T GET IT OFF!
I'LL BE THE LAUGHING STOCK OF GLENVILLE!
THIS IS AWFUL! HOW CAN I DELIVER MAIL THIS WAY?
SOB
© 1988 by Stan Lee and Don DeCarlo
OH NO! AS IF THINGS AREN'T BAD ENOUGH, THERE'S ALF'S UNCLE!
SHE'S BEEN HOUNDIN' ME TO COME TO HER TEA PARTY NEXT WEEK!
I'M A PARTY UGH!
YOO HOO!
I'M DEAD! SHE SAW ME!
OH, FORGIVE ME, YOUNG MAN! I THOUGHT YOU WERE WILLIE LUMPKIN!
MY! I DON'T IT HAVE A NICE SMILE!
I MAY NEVER TAKE IT OFF!

SILVER SURFIN' USA!

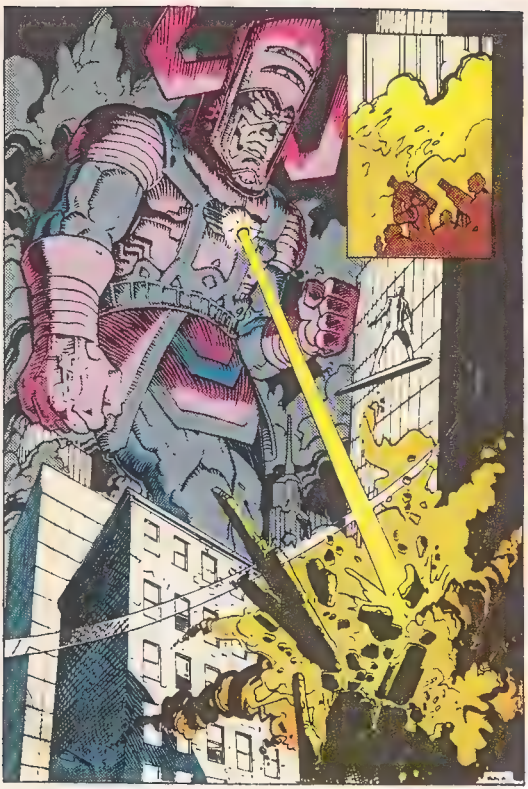


A glittering speck speeds through the starry firmament above us. Closer it hurtles, whipping past asteroids and cosmic storms, its outlines becoming progressively clearer—the outlines of a man! But this is no mere man—his shining form, his silvery visage mark him as the sentinel of the spaceways, the former herald of **Galactus**—**Norrin Radd, the Silver Surfer!**

"Sights no human eye can see," the Surfer cries, "I have beheld! Sounds no mortal ear can hear. . .I have heard! Emotions no earthbound soul can feel. . .I have felt!" Is there any other fantasy character capable of eliciting that certain special thrill conjured by the Silver Surfer? And is there any doubt that what with the plethora of Surfer projects coming out, it'll be Surf Heaven for Marvelites the world over?

Any lingering doubt that it wouldn't be was surely shattered with the sight of the stunning **Joe Jusko** cover painting for the first big Surfer project, the Silver Surfer hardcover Graphic Novel, "Judgment Day," by **Stan Lee** and **John Buscema**! It's a tour de

A sample of John Buscema's art on "Judgment Day."



An "out take" from "Parable." Art by Moebius.

force that conjures up the old days of twenty years ago, when Stan and John collaborated on the Surfer's first series.

Plotted by John Buscema himself, with an assist from the ever-present **Tom DeFalco**, the Surfer Graphic Novel was a project that Stan couldn't turn down. "You just don't miss a chance to write for John Buscema's art," he affirms.

The story originates with **Mephisto**, the arch-villain that Stan and John created especially to antagonize **Norrin Radd** way back in SILVER SURFER #3. (And for those of you who haven't tackled this month's Marvel Trivia Quiz yet, remember that fact—it'll come in handy!)

Now Mephisto has a new scheme to capture the Surfer's soul, by employing the current herald of **Galactus**, the irrepressible **Nova**, as bait. And the scheme is so devious that Nova herself won't even realize the role she is playing for Mephisto! But when Nova is enmeshed in the web of Mephisto, how will Galactus react? What worlds may shatter when Galactus confronts Mephisto and what part will the Silver Surfer play in this clash of titans?

Stan has spared nothing to recreate that timeless feeling of the original Lee/Buscema epics. The Surfer's dialogue quoted at the beginning of this article comes from page one of the Surfer Graphic Novel—and if that's not classic Stan Lee prose, we'll turn in our Merry Marvel Marching Society buttons!

The second big Surfer project of the year was the Epic Comics two-issue Limited Series starring the Silver Surfer as depicted by the comics legends of two continents, Stan Lee and **Moebius**! The two men met at last summer's San Diego Comics Convention, and over lunch they talked about various projects they might tackle together. When Stan proposed a special story idea involving the Silver Surfer, Moebius's reaction was immediate, delighted, and enthusiastic.

"I've been a fan of Moebius for a long time," says Stan. "He is so different, his style and storytelling approach are so unique and distinctive. . .writing with him is unlike writing with anybody else."

For the particular Surfer tale Stan was concocting, Moebius's illustrative style would be perfect. "Even though the story features Galactus prominently," Stan explains, "it's very much a story about real people in a real world."

So what's the story? Well, as anyone with a complete collection of MARVEL SAGA knows, Galactus pledged years ago not to destroy the Earth in the name of his everlasting hunger. But for a being as wise and inscrutable as the planet-devourer, the direct method is not always necessary. . .

Thus, it befalls that Galactus lands on our modest little planet and takes no offensive action at all—other than to explain to the peoples of the Earth that he is God! He asks no tribute, he issues no commands, but he convinces a large part of the Earth, hungry for any spiritual answer that he is in fact the Supreme Being. The result is a gripping tale that explores what happens to a world whose god is Galactus, and what the Surfer must do to prevent catastrophe.

The making of the Stan/Moebius project began from a detailed story outline that Stan prepared and read for Moebius and his American agents, **Randy** and **Jean-Marc L'Officier** (whose own names have been popping up as plotters or scripters of scads of American comics themselves.) Moebius, an established author in his own right, took Stan's outline and flew with it, utilizing his superb sense of storytelling and polished, cinematic pacing to create pages that Stan found a delight. "They were very easy to write. . .though ironically, they took about three times longer to write than normal—I was

such a nervous wreck about doing justice to the work!"

The two-parter was first published in the regular 4-color comic book format, at Moebius's special request. European comics are generally printed in very specialized formats, often more expensively than the way the regular American comics are printed. But Moebius was so pleased at how well his illustrations were printed in MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE #55 that he wanted to work on a project which would appear first as a regular American comic book. The result was the two-issue SILVER SURFER Limited Series.

And in November, both issues will be collected in a deluxe hardcover edition, which will also include full-process color, an interview with Moebius, and "out takes"--just as good as the "keeper" pages, and in some cases, there may even be fan debate over just which pages are better! For himself, Stan admires every page Moebius produces, and with any luck (and their busy schedules permitting), they may team again in the future on an original graphic novel featuring new characters outside of the Marvel Universe.

But wait! Would you believe there's still *another* blockbuster Surfer project in the works? Some time next summer you'll be seeing a second Silver Surfer Graphic Novel--"The Enslavers," plotted and drawn by **Keith Pollard**, and scripted by Stan. Editor **Bobbie Chase**, currently holding Keith's penciled pages in her office, says Keith's art does ample justice to the continuing legend of Norrin Radd!

Who are **the Enslavers**? They're an alien race who are taking over Galactus's normal job--the consuming of planets--but in much more brutal fashion. After ravaging and enslaving a planet, they suck out the core of the world using the power plants aboard their vast armada of star-spanning vessels. Their flagship, which is about the size of Jupiter (more or less), is commanded by their leader, **the Master of Masters**, an alien mutant who can himself siphon out the will and the spirit of sentient beings.

The Enslavers face the Silver Surfer when they dare attack Zenn-La and the Surfer's once-beloved. **Shalla Bal**. And love interests play more than a passing role in the Graphic Novel, inasmuch as the Master of Masters' concubine is herself a mutant with the power to make any man love her. And when she turns her power on the Surfer, it rebounds back upon her, making her fall in love with him herself! Can the two of them face an entire alien race? And how do Earth's other super heroes fit into the epic combat?

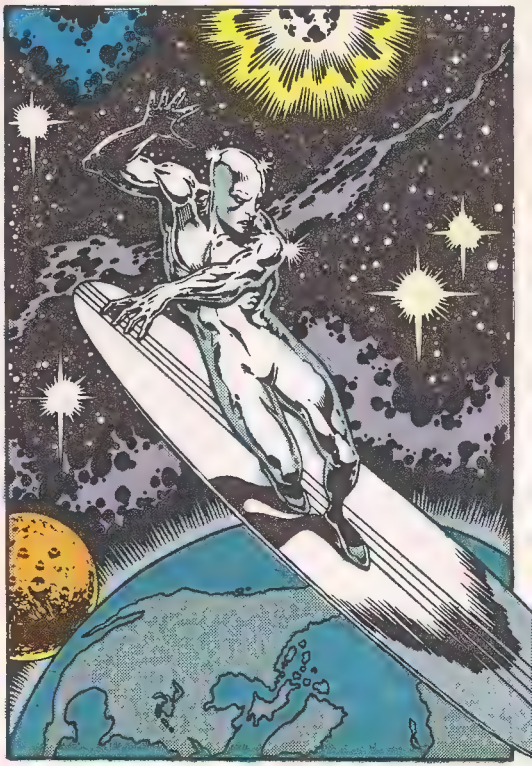
"The Enslavers" runs a mind-boggling eighty pages, making it one of the longest literary landmarks in Marvel's future. Keith has waited for his chance to work on the Silver Surfer for years, and he's making the most of the opportunity!

But all these great projects are just icing on the cake--the "cake" being the Surfer's regular monthly series by writer **Steve Englehart** and penciler **Ron Lim**. The series has had its share of major events, among them the Surfer's release from bondage to Earth, the galaxy-spanning second Kree/Skrull War, the planet-ravaging war with the Elders of the Universe . . .now that he's once again the Skyrider of the Spaceways, his adventures are spanning the stars!

Not bad for a character whose first appearance in comics wasn't even planned! You may remember hearing the story of the Silver Surfer's debut before: how Stan looked over the new Fantastic Four story **Jack Kirby** had just drawn, and asked, "Who's this guy on the surfboard?" And the King explained to the Man that anyone as powerful as Galactus should have a herald to scout ahead and find planets for him! So the premiere of our favorite spacefarer was somewhat unplanned . . .but these days there will always be plans, big plans for the Silver Surfer! Surf's up!

--*Brian Nelson*

The Silver Surfer drawn by Keith Pollard for "The Enslavers."



DREAMWEAVER™

DREAMWEAVER TM and © 1988 by Bill Mumy and Miguel Ferrer.

Back in the 1930s, before super heroes first made their mark in comic books, there was the age of the pulps. Pulps were ten cent magazines containing short stories, novelettes, or issue-length novels featuring men who, although they might not have been able to burst into flame at will, were slightly more than human anyway. Whenever crime struck at innocent people, criminals would wind up facing justice through the quick fists or blazing guns of the **Shadow**, **Doc Savage**, the **Avenger**, the **Spider**, or any of the dozens of other men of mystery who called the pulps their home.

And now, the spirit of the pulps lives again in the pages of the brand new DREAMWEAVER Graphic Novel! Written by COMET MAN creators **Bill Mumy** and **Miguel Ferrer** and illus-

trated by noted artist **Gray Morrow**, THE DREAMWEAVER brings the feel of the classic 1930s straight into the heart of the hard-hitting 1980s!

"We've always been attracted to 'pulpy' characters," Bill Mumy says, explaining the motivation behind THE DREAMWEAVER. "We're combining the cloak and dagger vigilantes of the 1930s and 1940s with the high-tech spy-guys of the '80s."

To make the combination work, Bill and Miguel have created not one but *two* **Dreamweavers**! The story begins with **Joshua McGann**, a Vietnam veteran who is also one of America's top secret agents. But when the organization Joshua works for decides that they might be better off with him dead. . .well, let's just say he starts looking for a different line of work!

But while it might seem that Joshua's life has headed in some unusual directions already, it takes an even stranger turn when his stepmother (a California district attorney) is assassinated! The shock proves to be too much for Joshua's elderly father, and on his death bed, Joshua's father tells Joshua his greatest secret ––that years before, he battled crime as the Dreamweaver!

At first, Joshua is doubtful. But when he stumbles across a secret closet containing his father's old costume and equipment, he decides to avenge his parents' deaths by taking up the mantle of the Dreamweaver himself!

His father's equipment comes in pretty handy for Joshua's new role. "Everything in the Dreamweaver's costume is functional––even his cape," Bill explains. Like the capes worn by the early French police, the cape has lead weights sewn into the seams. "So if he cracks his cape at you, it's a lot worse than being snapped with a wet gym towel!" Bill laughs.

Of course, Joshua's own spy training doesn't hurt either. Besides being an expert martial artist, Joshua's background in espionage makes it possible for him to make his own unique additions to his father's old weaponry. Foremost among the new Dreamweaver equipment is a device called the alpha sequencer. "Between the alpha sequencer and some hypnotic drugs, the Dreamweaver can get just about any information he wants out of you," says Bill.

And just in case all of his sophisticated weaponry doesn't quite do the job, yes, the Dreamweaver does carry a gun.

His skills and weaponry seem to make the Dreamweaver an apt successor to the masked vigilantes of the 1930s pulps. And that makes it all the more fitting that all of the art chores on the Graphic Novel, from penciling through inking and even coloring, is being handled by longtime comics artist Gray Morrow. "Gray was our first choice for the artist on THE DREAMWEAVER," says DREAMWEAVER editor **Howard Mackie**. "He's perfect for it––his work has a very 'pulpy' feel to it."

Bill and Miguel agree that Gray's illustrative style captures the feel of the 1930s pulps perfectly. "We couldn't be happier that Gray's the man!" Bill exclaims. "We get a package of pages in the mail and open it up, and it's like Christmas morning!"

Indeed, Gray even proved to be instrumental in helping to design the Dreamweaver's arsenal! "Gray is such an expert in weapons. . .you wouldn't believe the guns he sketched for us! He suggested weapons and we added them to the plotline."

The end result of the process is an adventure tale with a classic flavor and more than a few surprises tossed in.

All in all, Bill says that "Miguel and I feel that THE DREAMWEAVER is turning out to be the best project we've ever been connected with!" And considering that besides their past success with the COMET MAN Limited Series, the pair is already hard at work on a Comet Man serial for MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS (not to mention stories Bill is scripting which star **Wonder Man** and even the Golden Age **Human Torch**), that's really saying something!

So will there be any further adventures in store for the Dreamweaver after the graphic novel? "We have high hopes for the character continuing on," Bill says. "Should response to the graphic novel be what we hope, we also want to tell stories of the original Dreamweaver in the 1930s. His career cost him his first wife pretty quickly!

"We certainly want to carry on with the Dreamweaver. We're ready to jump into the thick of it and roll with this as long as possible!"

––Sholly Fisch

'WE WHO ARE ABOUT TO DIE'

Strikeforce: MORITURI™

The Tiger, The Wind, and The Ghost--three new Morituri secretly ordered by the government to destroy Strikeforce: Morituri.

STRIKEFORCE: MORITURI is changing. It has a new creative team, writer **James Hudnall** and penciler **Mark Bagley**; it has a new, hard science-fiction direction; and soon it will have a new look as well — the prestigious Graphic Album format. With so much new going on, about the only thing that hasn't changed is the reason STRIKEFORCE: MORITURI has developed such a strong following. It's still a series about super heroes of

the future who have literally pledged their lives to save humanity.

James Hudnall, who is also the writer of ALPHA FLIGHT, sees scripting STRIKEFORCE: MORITURI as an opportunity to ". . .explore the psyche of the super hero in ways it has yet to be done. I want to make it a serio-political war book. And I want to make it a more dramatic, a more personal story."

Mark Bagley's art well matches the hard science-fiction thrust of the series. A winner of the MARVEL COMICS TRYOUT contest, Mark's success was followed by assignments as the regular penciler on THE VISIONARIES and as the penciler of this year's SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN and WEB OF SPIDER-MAN annuals. The high technical quality of his work is a result of the job Mark had while waiting for his break in comics. "I knew how to draw figures," Mark said. "I knew about super heroes—after all, I'd been reading and drawing them for years. But then I got a job at Lockheed doing technical illustrations. That job taught me a lot, especially with design and background."

The new direction of the series is caused by a fundamental change in the conflict. James said, "I've gotten rid of **the Horde**." The Horde is a nomadic space-faring race of ravagers who landed on Earth. When Mankind's weapons proved incapable of defeating them, the Morituri process was developed. It was humanity's last hope to avoid imminent extinction. The Morituri process gave normal people super powers, but at a terrible price. Within a year of undergoing it, the individual would die. While the threat of this "ticking internal time bomb" created some of the most dramatic moments in the series, it also caused one of its biggest frustrations. Everyone knew that sooner or later the new super hero would be gone. Now, as part of a greater, complex and sinister storyline, the threat of inevitable death from the Morituri process is about to change. As James explained, "I've introduced two new conflicts, the main one is on the Earth, with a political faction trying to overthrow the government—and using the Morituri as fall guys. They will introduce three new Morituri into the team—men who are actually criminals, in it for the money. They are men who have been told they will *not* die from the Morituri effect." But is that claim actually true? James prefers to keep the answer under wraps, but he did say that now". . .we'll never be sure of the life span of a Morituri, although. . .they'll be around a little longer than they've been thus far."

With the Horde gone, and with the certainty of death from the Morituri process now in doubt, James plans to explore ". . .the rationale behind the Morituri, the implications of their existence, the whole milieu of their world and their people. But I don't want to dispose of all the problems. The Horde is gone, but they're not all that far away, still close enough, and with reason enough, to be a menace.

"There's also a new alien race—one who will appear to be on our side, but who have their own plans. They are plans that encompass the Earth, the Solar System, and the Morituri." These new aliens will prove to be more deadly than the Horde.

As mentioned earlier, the new direction of the series will soon be featured in the Graphic Album format, the same format as the popular NICK FURY VS. S.H.I.E.L.D. Limited Series. Each issue will run 45 pages. And because of the new scope of the stories, STRIKEFORCE: MORITURI will appear on a special schedule of its own. You might say STRIKEFORCE: MORITURI will become a monthly six-issue Limited Series that will return every year.

The arrangement opens new storytelling opportunities for James. "I want to take the series further and further into the future," he said. "Eventually, it will cover over a hundred years of human history and show the dramatic changes in Earth's position both in the Solar System and the Galaxy. We will see the whole development of man as a Galactic being, from the building of L-5 colony stations in Earth orbit, to the terraforming of the planets and the move to the stars. Through all this the race will be influenced by the Morituri, who are still supermen. By then, almost a separate race. The Morituri will always be there, sometimes helping, sometimes hindering, but always ready to give their lives if needed."

—Doug Murray

Lifter, one of the new Morituri who is loyal to the team.

DEATH'S HEAD™

The British are coming! The British are coming! For years, Marvel UK, our sister company across the Atlantic, has reprinted tales of our American heroes---the **FF**, **Spider-Man**, the **Hulk** and company---as well as producing reams of their own terrific material. Unfortunately, very little of the British material has been made widely available in the States (or the Colonies, as the Brits like to call it.) Oh sure, **Captain Britain** popped up in MARVEL TEAM-UP and later became a member of **Excalibur** and we *have* reprinted some of Marvel UK's DOCTOR WHO MAGAZINE stories, but by and large we Americans are grossly ignorant of the great stuff being produced in England. Well, times have changed. Not too long ago two new Marvel UK projects debuted in the U.S., DRAGON'S CLAWS and G.I. JOE EUROPEAN MISSIONS. Now there's a third new series heading for our shore, DEATH'S HEAD.

Death's Head is a merciless, robotic killer who was created as a rich man's plaything. Death's Head, however, was programmed with instincts that were all his own and he decided on Day One that he would answer to no one but himself---unless, of course, they pay well.

Death's Head's first appearance was in a one-page strip in the back of Marvel UK's TRANSFORMERS. From there he went on to appear in the main TRANSFORMERS story when Autobot leader **Rodimus Prime** put a price on the head of the evil Decepticon leader, **Galvatron**. Death's Head was voted "Favorite Supporting Character" in a TRANSFORMERS readers poll and consequently was brought back in a later story to tackle the planet-devouring creature known as **Unicron**. During the climax of the battle with Unicron, Death's Head was flung through a time portal and, though this actually saved his life, came into conflict with the time

DEATH'S HEAD-
FINAL DESIGN
SHIELD DESIGN - AS BELT BUCKLE.
SPINES (POSSIBLY RETRACTABLE) FOR USE WHEN THROWING THE SHIELD AT AN ENEMY. (ACTUAL SIZE - SLIGHTLY LARGER THAN SHOWN)
IT CAN BE USED QUITE FREQUENTLY IN STORIES (PLEASE)
I DON'T THINK I CAN ACTUALLY IMPROVE ON THIS. RICH!
PROFILE SHOT WITHOUT SCAR.
FRONT VIEW WITH SCAR. IT MAKES HIM LOOK MEAN, RICH. BUT I'M NOT SURE THAT I LIKE IT!

THIS IS SPRATT. HE'LL PROBABLY CHANGE SLIGHTLY BY THE TIME HE APPEARS, BUT I'D KEEP HIM FUNDAMENTALLY THE SAME.
MAJOR WEAPONS: TWO KNIVES HE'S MORE INTO BOUNCING, AND KICKING / ORIENTAL STYLE OF FIGHTING THAN ACTUALLY BLASTING SOMEBODY.

has become a particularly lawless city in 8162 and Death's Head soon finds that there is plenty of work for a bounty hunter (uh---Freelance Peacekeeping Agent!) like himself. Indeed, one of his first assignments brings him into conflict with another bounty hunter—**Big Shot**--and the results of the encounter are messy to say the least! Both Spratt and Big Shot will be regular supporting characters in the series.

Richard Starkings, the editor of DEATH'S HEAD, is very enthusiastic about the project. The creative team that he has assembled is absolutely top drawer. **Simon Furman**, the writer of the series, has been an editor at Marvel UK for 3½ years and has been writing for the company for even longer. His scripting credits include TRANSFORMERS, DOCTOR WHO, ZOIDS, and THUNDERCATS.

Bryan Hitch is the *wunderkind* of Marvel UK. At age 17, he is the penciler on DEATH'S HEAD and is, in Richard Starkings' estimation, "a very talented guy, indeed." Although he has been working for Marvel UK for less than a year, he has drawn a number of titles including ACTION FORCE (the British G.I. JOE), DOCTOR WHO and TRANSFORMERS.

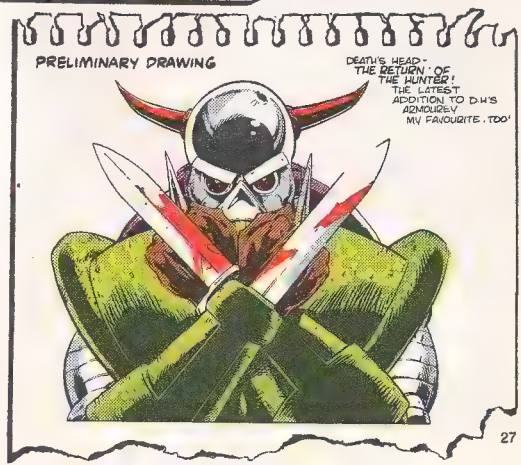
Mark Farmer, who inks DEATH'S HEAD, is probably more familiar to American readers. He has inked Epic's ALIEN LEGION and has worked on Judge Dredd and Marvel UK's TRANSFORMERS and CAPTAIN BRITAIN.

With a talented group like this, you can be sure that imported Marvel will be of the same high caliber as the domestic brand. Be sure to be on hand to see for yourself. Pick up a copy of DEATH'S HEAD now.

—*Sandy Hausler, J.D.*

traveler known only as **"The Doctor."** Outwitted by the Doctor in a brief appearance in Marvel UK's long-running DOCTOR WHO MAGAZINE, Death's Head found himself dumped six thousand years into Earth's future. There he was maneuvered into a nearly-fatal conflict with the Earth government commando outfit known as **Dragon's Claws**.

The series begins with Death's Head being repaired by the **Chain Gang**, a group of subterranean scavengers. They expect to use Death's Head for their own purposes, but Death's Head has ideas of his own. Before long, he leaves the Gang behind, and moves to Los Angeles, as far away from Dragon's Claws as he can get. He sets up business there with his enthusiastic accomplice, **Spratt** (a member of the Chain Gang who chooses to leave his subterranean lifestyle and join Death's Head—whether he likes it or not). Los Angeles



THE MARVEL® AGE OF COMICS 1978 PART II

1978 heralded a changing of the guard at Marvel Comics, as **Archie Goodwin** concluded his tenure as Editor in Chief, to be followed by **Jim Shooter.** But while some things would change, others would endure. . .

Such as the lasting popularity of Marvel's sword-and-sorcery exploits! Helmed by **Roy Thomas, Conan** and his crew saw one of their grandest years yet, storming the newsstands in comics, black-and-white mags, and full-color magazines as well! In the four-color CONAN THE BARBARIAN, everyone's favorite Cimmerian battled **Sabia,** the sorceress of the Swamp; the **Man-Dragons** of Stygia; and the **Devourer of the Dead!** In search of his abducted mate, **Belit,** Conan met **Zula,** the black swordsman/sorcerer who helped him beat the hawk-riders of Harakht! With Belit rescued, the trio fought their way free of Stygian revolts and the plotting of King **Ctesphon. . .** though not free of the shadow of **Thoth-Amon!** Ol' Thoth, Conan's arch-foe, worked his spells behind the scenes to pit Conan against Belit, and Zula against the Black **Corsair,** M'Gora!

The four allies broke free of **Thoth-Amon's** spell, and Belit went on to gain her revenge and the throne of Asgalun. But this done, she knew she preferred the buccaneering life of the sea, with her Conan. As they set off for adventures along the coast, the 1978 CONAN ANNUAL presented a tale of King Conan, rescuing his future love, **Zenobia,** from the horror of the **Manotaur!** In SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN, scripter Thomas continued to adapt **Robert E. Howard** classic stories, including such epics as "The Scarlet Citadel," "Fiends of the Flame Knife," and "Hawks Over Shem." **Kull the Destroyer** appeared in back-up adventures, as did the Puritan adventurer, **Solomon Kane,** who went for a rematch against **Dracula,** the Lord of Vampires. Conan saw further action in the full process color pages of MARVEL COMICS SUPER SPECIAL, along with his cohort in carnage, **Red Sonja!** Of course, during this period the SUPER SPECIAL was more devoted to movie adaptations and media tie-ins than to barbarian brawls. Other issues in '78 included adaptations of CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND (by **Goodwin/Simonson/Janson),** JAWS II, and BATTLESTAR: GALACTICA. The super-rockers known as **Kiss** made a return appearance in the full color format, and writer **David Kraft** and artist **George Perez** teamed to tell: THE BEATLES STORY. But it was Conan and Sonja who were chosen to close out the year, with the blood-curdling saga, "The Trail of the Blood-Stained God." In her own series, RED SONJA clashed with all manner of supernatural threats, from the **Behemoths** to the **Serpent Sorceress.** She rode the Chariot of the Fire-Stallions, she grappled with "Angels From Hell," she found herself blinded and still forced to fight to survive! Through it all, of course, she remained true to her vow, never to belong to any man who had not bested her in battle. And what man could?

CONAN TM and © 1988 by Conan Properties, Inc.

KULL THE DESTROYER regained the Topaz Throne from the usurper, **Thulsa Doom**—along with all the myriad problems of reigning in a tumultuous era. At least he now had the friendship of **Ridondo,** who he had rescued from demons, and fought with against such preternatural threats as the beastly **Gasshga.** Through his series came to an end, it was only for the time being—he would reappear in sequels and specials to come, second only to Conan as a barbarian-king whom nothing could stop

Barbaric action wasn't restricted to the Robert E. Howard stable of characters, though—the legacy of **Edgar Rice Burroughs** also played a prominent role in 1978! In JOHN CARTER, WARLORD OF MARS, the all-new novel, "The Air Pirates of Mars," came to a climactic finish after ten thrilling chapters. We learned the origin of **Dejah Thoris, John Carter's** incomparable bride, and watched as John fought alongside the six-armed Thark, **Tars Tarkas,** against the City of Skulls,

MARVEL® COMICS PRICE GUIDE

Let's face it, the methods of Conan and company won't always cut it in the twentieth century. Why, in Conan's time, a dagger under the neck, or the offer of a fine-boned wench in trade, and all the back issues we covered this month would be yours! Nowadays, though, you'll be expected to fork over a few kopecks, and so here's what you can anticipate—shelling out for these sagas at your local comics specialty shop. As always, our source is **Robert Overstreet's** THE COMIC BOOK PRICE GUIDE #18. But remember, this is only a guide. Actual prices may vary, and should be even less for copies in fair or poor condition.

	CONDITION		
	Good	Fine	Mint
■ **CONAN THE BARBARIAN**			
82-93		.50	1.00
ANNUAL 4	.25	.70	1.40
■ **DEVIL DINOSAUR**			
1-9		.25	.50
■ **JOHN CARTER, WARLORD OF MARS**			
8-10		.30	.60
11-17, 19		.25	.50
18 **(Miller art)**	.35	1.00	2.00
ANNUAL 2		.40	.80
■ **KULL THE DESTROYER**			
25-29		.30	.60
■ **MARVEL COMICS SUPER SPECIAL** (magazine)			
3 **(CE3K)**	.35	1.00	2.00
9 **(Conan)**	.35	1.00	2.00
4 **(Beatles; Perez/ Janson art)**	6.00	3.00	6.00
5 **(Kiss)**	2.65	8.00	18.00
6 **(Jaws II)**	.25	.75	1.50
7 **(Published in Britain only) (Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band)**			
8 **(Battlestar: Galactica** tabloid)	.35	1.00	2.00
8 **(Battlestar: Galactica** magazine format, low distribution)	.85	2.50	5.00
■ **RED SONJA**			
7-10		.40	.80
11-12		.30	.60
■ **SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN** (magazine)			
26-30	.50	1.50	3.00
31-36	.35	1.00	2.00
■ **TARZAN**			
8-19, **ANNUAL 2**		.25	.50

the March of the Dead, and in the 1978 ANNUAL, against the **Headmen of Mars**. After a brief visit back to the Earth that had sired him, the gentleman from Virginia returned to the Red Planet for another all-new multi-parter, "The Master Assassin of Mars," which would pit him against wing-men, hordes of conspirators,and treachery that ran to the heart of the Barsoomian

STILL ONLY 35¢
MARVEL COMICS GROUP
NOV 026 14
IN AN AGE OF MONSTERS, HE WAS MIGHTIEST OF ALL!
DEVIL DINOSAUR
AT THE MERCY OF THE DINO RIDERS!

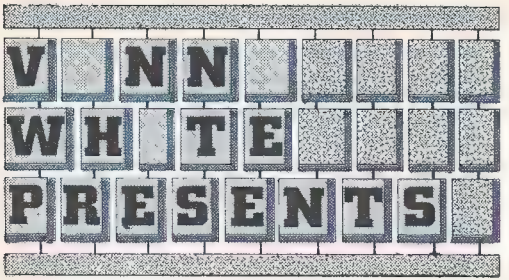
empire!

Meanwhile, Burroughs' best-known creation, TARZAN, was in the midst of his own multi-parter, as the comics adaptation of "Tarzan and the Jewels of Opar" reached its triumphant conclusion, with the rescue of **Jane Clayton** and the defeat of the venomous **La.** A few "Jungle Tales of Tarzan" followed, including his meetings with **Histah** the Serpent and **Numa** the Lion. Then, it was an all-new serial for **Tarzan,** as well, as "Blood Money and Human Bondage" brought him into battle with African slaves and poachers—and then with the corsairs of the Earth's core, as the Lord of the Jungle entered another fabled Burroughs realm, the world inside the Earth known as Pellucidar! The 1978 TARZAN ANNUAL heralded more all-new thrills, as Tarzan faced the bizarre threat of the **Death-Dancers!**

Adventure in a primeval world was the keynote for a new **Jack Kirby** series that began and ended in 1978, but that has special importance to fans of the FALLEN ANGELS. Of course, it was DEVIL DINOSAUR, who shared with his companion, **Moon-Boy,** amazing exploits from the dawn of time. The unlikely pair found themselves at war with the prehistoric **Spider-God**—lost in the Kingdom of the Ants—and prisoners of the macabre Demon-Tree! Kirby also presented a unique version of Man's fall from grace, replete with a serpent from outer space—for in the world of **Devil Dinosaur,** anything was possible! Even a visit to the future, to our present, could transpire at the hands of an antediluvian witch, until the spell faded and Devil and Moon-Boy were back where they belonged.

This month we looked at the adventurers from ages undreamed of in the past—next month we'll look at the fantasies of the future, as the boom in science fiction and space fantasy takes over at Marvel! Till then, keep your sword arm free—Thoth-Amon might be around any corner!

—Brian Nelson



Send your letters to:
MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE,
c o Marvel Entertainment Group,
387 Park Avenue South,
New York, NY 10016

This month's letter column title is a touching tribute to everyone's favorite letter turner, and it comes to us courtesy of Nelson Jimenez of Stamford, Connecticut. Thanks a lot, Nelson!

Before we buy a vowel and turn to this month's letters, we just want to take a second to remind everyone out there that we need a brand new title for this column month after month, year after year, century after century. So get to work and send in your titles! If we use one of your ideas, we'll even print your name in this space as our way of saying "thanks." And who knows? Today, your name might be in a letter column. Tomorrow . . .maybe even on a post office wall!

And now, on to the first letter! Hey, Nelson, is there a "D"?

Dear Marvel,

I am a big fan of super-villains and I would like to know where the **Blob**, **Magneto**, **Juggernaut**, and the **Circus of Crime** have been. When will they be coming back?

Brandon Prindle
Springfield, VA

Well, Brandon, super-villains tend to be kind of a secretive lot overall, but we've checked with our various underworld sources, and here's what we've found:

To start with, we hope you caught the Juggernaut's battle with Marvel's newest mutant team, Excalibur, in EXCALIBUR #3.

Magneto and the Blob are both pretty busy these days since they're not only trying to make honest lives for themselves but also convince the folks around them that it's not all part of a master plot! You can find Magneto spending most of his time training the New Mutants, and the Blob turns up from time to time as part of the government-sponsored Freedom Force (or "the Brotherhood of Evil Mutants," as they used to be called--what would Oliver North have to say about that?). As for the Circus of Crime, well, expect to see them in the new SHE-HULK series. For details on exactly when, keep checking the pages of MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE.

Marvel Agers,

I was just reading my OFFICIAL HANDBOOK TO THE MARVEL UNIVERSE, and I found out that anyone who consumes the flesh of another human being for any reason will be transformed into a **Wendigo**. This is obviously wrong! I just ate my roommate and nothing's happeni--My hand! It's changing!! Wow!! All ri--! Rr--! Rrar!

Robert (the Wendigo) Rater
Ames, IA

Aw, you can't fool us, Robert. That Wendigo stuff's all a myth. After all, if it were true, MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE managing editor Dwight Jon Zimmerman would've turned into a Wendigo years ago!

Though come to think of it, Dwight has needed a shave lately. . .

Dear Marvel,

I have two questions:

On many comics, I see a small box in the lower left corner of the cover. I know that used to be used to hold the Universal Product Code symbol, but what function does it serve now? By putting the box there, you are blocking part of the cover. If you are just going to stick **Spider-Man**'s face in there, you might as well take it out completely.

Also, as I was reading MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #7, I saw that the **Wolverine** story was the only one done with breakdowns instead of a penciler, what is the difference?

Alex Stimmel
1185 Park Ave.
New York, NY 10128

Taking your questions in order, Alex:

You're absolutely right about that box on the cover being for the Universal Product Code (that little squiggly computer code that can be found on everything from comics to gourmet fondue mix). The reason that your comics are emblazoned with a picture rather than the UPC code is that you bought your comics at a comics specialty shop or other direct sales outlet. The UPC codes are placed on all comics sold either on the newsstands or in Waldenbooks stores.

And why do we put Spidey's picture in the box? Well, who should we put--Irving Forbush?

Moving on to your second question, the difference between pencils and breakdowns is this: The term "pencils" refers to detailed artwork drawn in (of all things) pencil, and the artist who later enhances this penciled art in ink is called (sensibly enough) an "inker." "Breakdowns" refers to less detailed pencils; in this case, the inker is responsible for adding much of the detail, so he/she is generally called a "finisher." Of course, "breakdown" also refers to what happens to artists when they've got a week to draw an entire comic book that stars half the Marvel Universe and three dozen new characters, but that's a different story.

Dear Jim and Co.,

I've got a few suggestions. Here are some changes you should make in the Marvel Universe:

Kill **Wolverine**. Kill the **New Mutants**. Kill the **Hulk**. Kill **Captain America**. Kill **Spider-Man**. Kill every Marvel character except for **Devil Dinosaur** and **Moon Boy**. Then publish thirty different titles starring these characters, like THE UNCANNY DEVIL DINOSAUR AND MOON BOY, THE INCREDIBLE DEVIL DINOSAUR AND MOON BOY, and MARVEL TEAM-UP STARRING DEVIL DINOSAUR AND MOON BOY. If you did this, your sales would undoubtedly go up tremendously because they are obviously your best characters.

Think about it, okay?

Jeff "LW" Lacasse
1516 W. Cherry Avenue
Lompoc, CA 93436

No.

Whoops! We've suddenly gone to yellow, and you know what that means! No, it doesn't mean that war with the Russians is imminent. It means that it's time for our LETTER OF THE MONTH! Every month, we dig deep into our voluminous mailsacks and pull out a letter (or sometimes even two) that we think will be of particular interest to Marveldom at large. Then we print it here against a 100% all-natural yellow background.

This issue, our Letter of the Month comes from someone who's got one of the healthiest attitudes about collecting comics that we've seen in a while.

Dear Marvel,

I am a well-adjusted, socially active, attractive nineteen-year-old girl. I'm intelligent, articulate, and have no lack of outside interests. I've been collecting comics since I was seven and see no reason to stop just because I'm getting older (and I've had some heavy hints that I should stop and use my time more productively) because I feel that the genre has grown with me.

When I begin college this Summer, I plan to major in creative writing. I'd like to thank comic books for starting me in this direction. A lot of times people ask, "What are you going to be?" Since that question is dependent upon ever-changing variables in one's life, I can't really answer it. What people should ask is "What do you want to be?" That I can answer in two words: a writer. I might write comics plots, TV scripts, short stories, or novels. I might end up missing more lucrative opportunities in other fields of work, but I won't regret going after my dream.

So I don't feel ashamed to be collecting comics, watching an occasional cartoon, or being incredibly fanciful at my age. A touch embarrassed, perhaps (after all, peer pressure is a factor), but since I do lots of things that give my life a well-rounded wholesomeness, other people just have to accept my hobbies as a part of my personality. I just wanted to say this so that others out there can be reassured that comics collectors aren't a collection of misfit introverts and that this interest can have positive results.

Alice Lin

We couldn't have said it better ourselves, Alice. Thanks for writing.

Dear Marvel,

I've been reading comics for ten months now and have 218, all Marvel. In only one have I seen my favorite character, **Jack Russell the Werewolf by Night**. I would love to see a WEREWOLF BY NIGHT Limited Series.

Richard Rogers
11 Summer Pl., Cambridge
Ontario, Canada N1S-4S5

Good news, Richard! Even as we speak, work is underway on a serial starring the Werewolf which will appear in MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS! The serial is scripted by Len Kaminski, who's written several stories for the various SPIDER-MAN titles, and penciled by James W. Fry, who's worked on everything from JUSTICE to WHAT THE---?

The serial should appear sometime in the next year or so, and it's going to explore the relationship between Jack and the Werewolf in ways that it's never been explored before. So brace yourself---after this serial, the Werewolf will never be the same again!

Time to wrap up yet another lifting letter column. But before we go, let's meet another batch of MARVEL CORRESPONDENTS! That's right--Marvel Correspondents, those friendly folks from hither and yon (that's Hither, New Jersey and Yon, Wisconsin, of course) who are looking for people who want to swap ideas, opinions, and high-fiber recipes. Go ahead and drop one or two of 'em a line! After all, where else can you have this much fun for the price of a stamp?

ANSWERS TO MARVEL® TRIVIA QUIZ

1. B	3. A	5. C	7. C	9. A	11. C	13. A	15. A	17. A	19. B
2. A	4. B	6. B	8. C	10. C	12. C	14. A	16. D	18. B	20. B

MARVEL® CORRESPONDENTS

If you want to be listed in this space yourself, just send your name, address, age, and the titles of your three favorite Marvel comics to Marvel Correspondents at the address high atop this letter column.

And now, prepare yourselves because the Marvel Correspondents Cometh!

Jerry Mannarino
2035 60 Street
Brooklyn, NY 11204
Age: 18
Favorites: NEW MUTANTS, FANTASTIC FOUR, THOR

Brigitte Fielicke
Dachsacker 16
3501 Niestetal-Sandershs
WEST GERMANY
Age: 23
Favorites: SPIDER-MAN, ELFQUEST, GROO

Eduardo Matos
6006 Jefferson St. Apt. 1
West New York, NJ 07093
Age: 17
Favorites: X-MEN, X-FACTOR, NEW MUTANTS

David Foley
Kilderry
Bray Road
Shankill County
Dublin, IRELAND
Age: 15
Favorites: X-MEN, X-FACTOR, NEW MUTANTS

Eric T. Stevens
1575 E. 174th Street
Bronx, NY 10472
Age: 19
Favorites: SPIDER-MAN, HULK, CAPTAIN AMERICA

Sue Triger
13 Vernon Rd.
Medway, MA 02053
Age: 24
Favorites: G.I. JOE, POWER PACK, THUNDERCATS

Daniel Nash
1 Bankside
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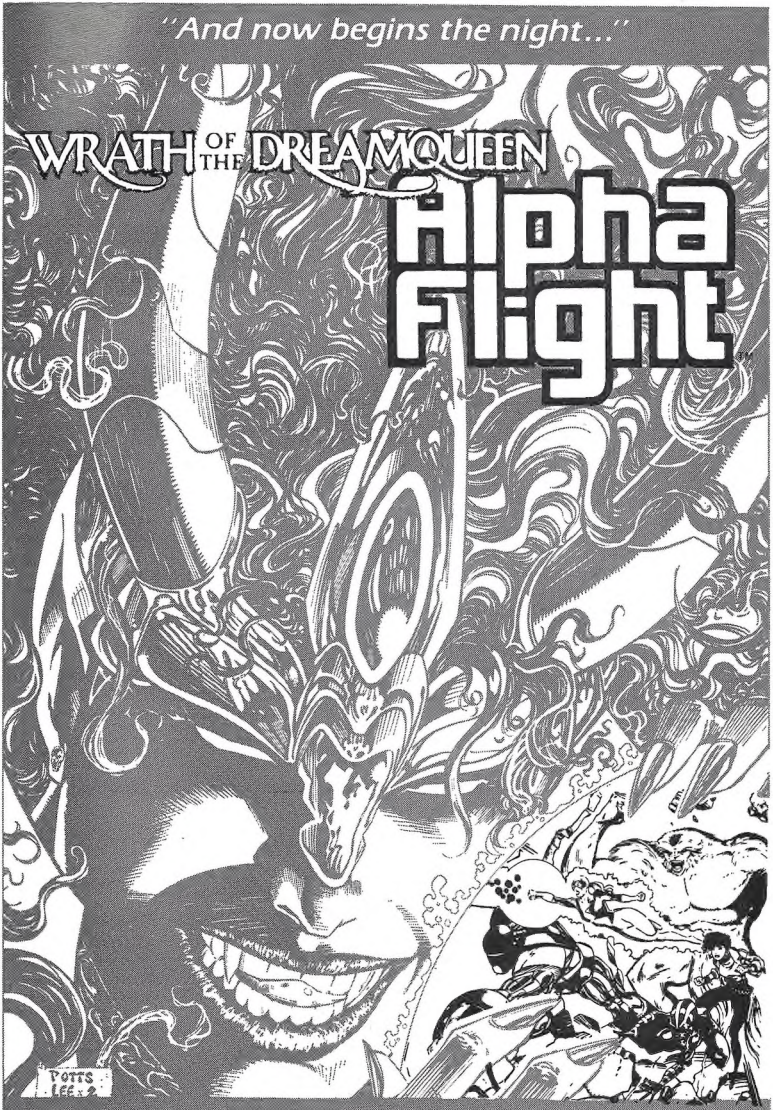

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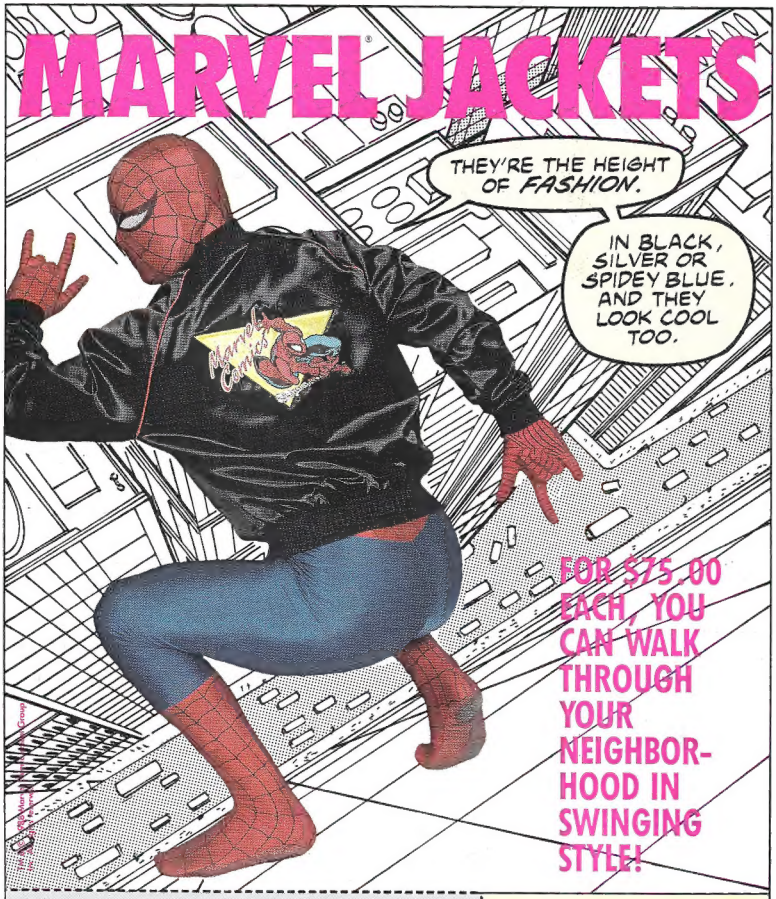

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